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every issue does not necessarily contain all these contents, but they are the regular features which continually recur.

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Architectural Appointments VacantWanted and

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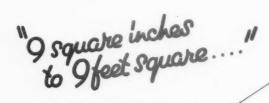
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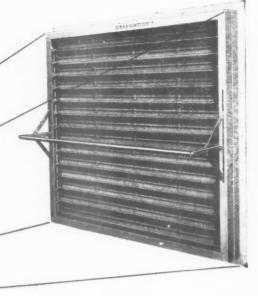
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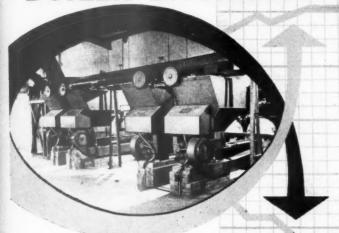
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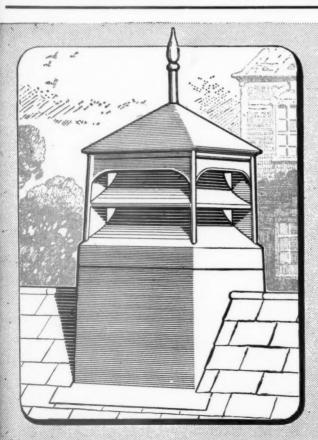
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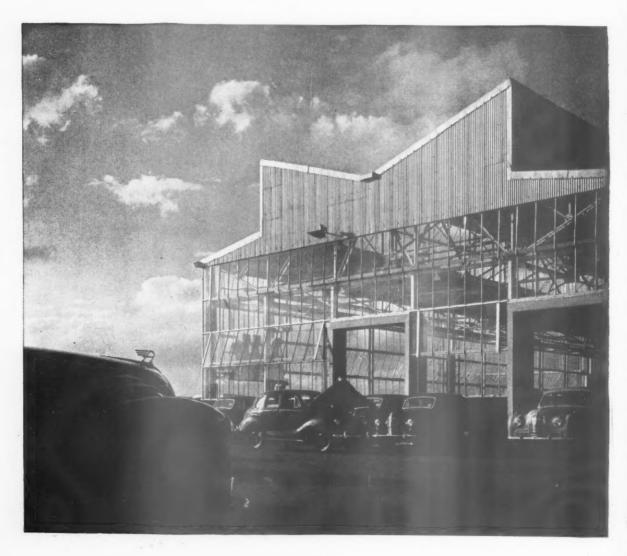
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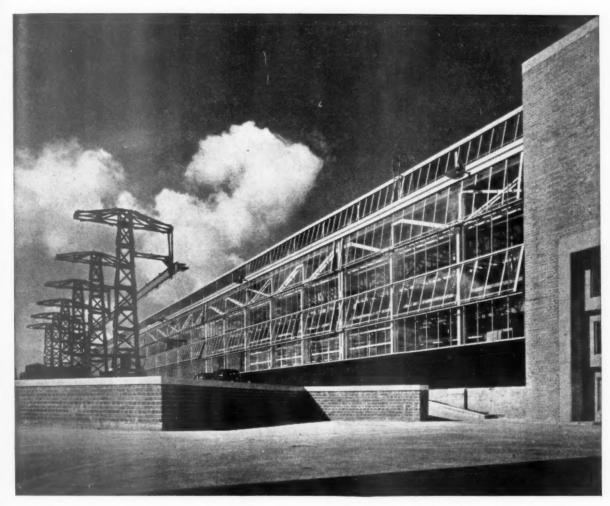
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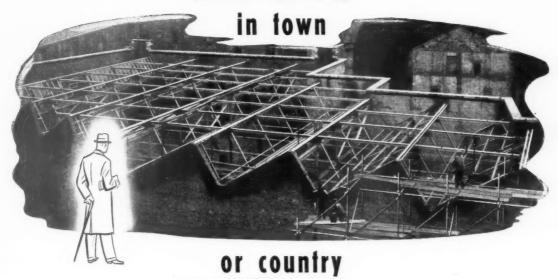
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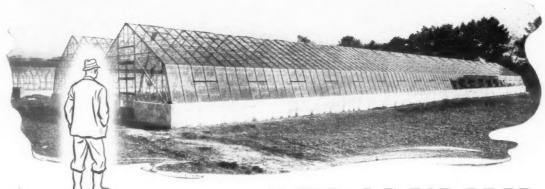
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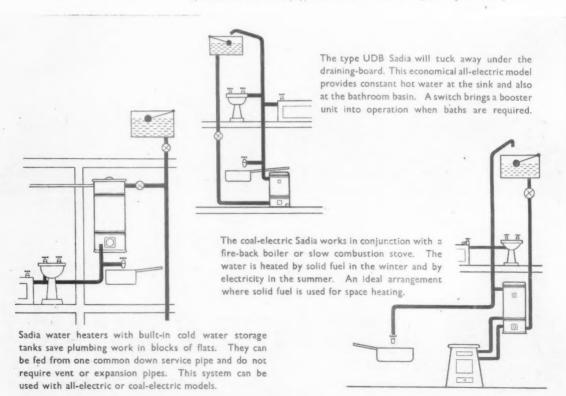
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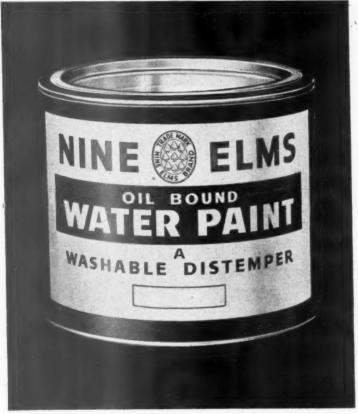
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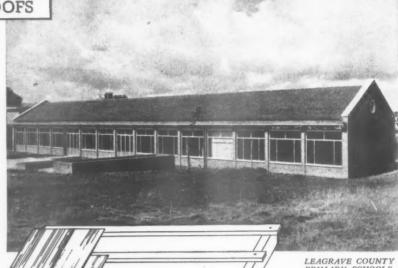
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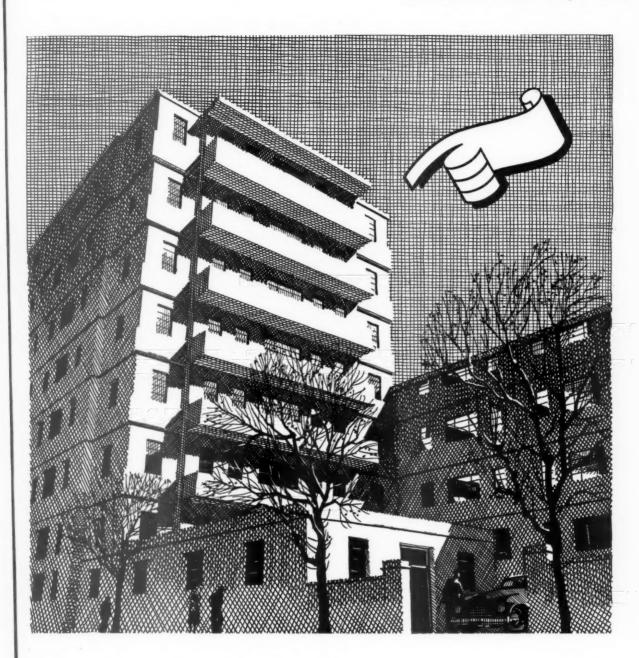
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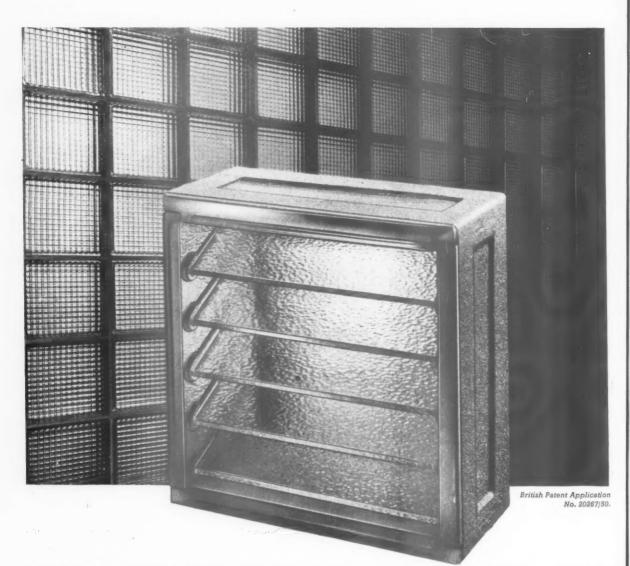
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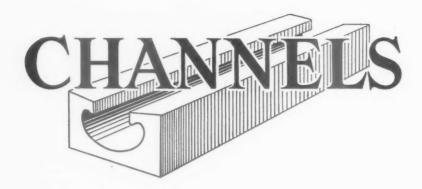
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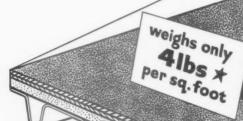
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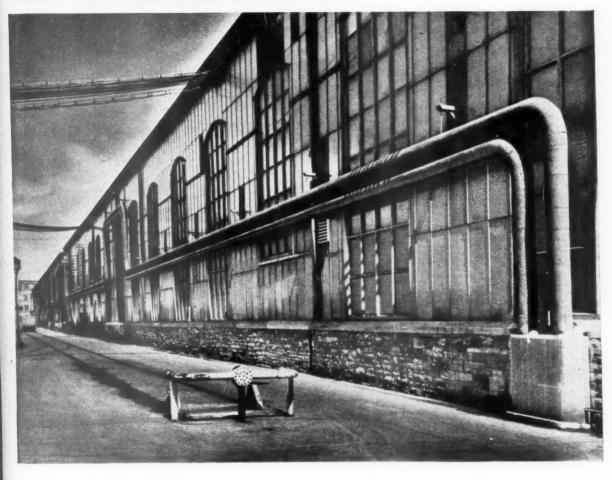
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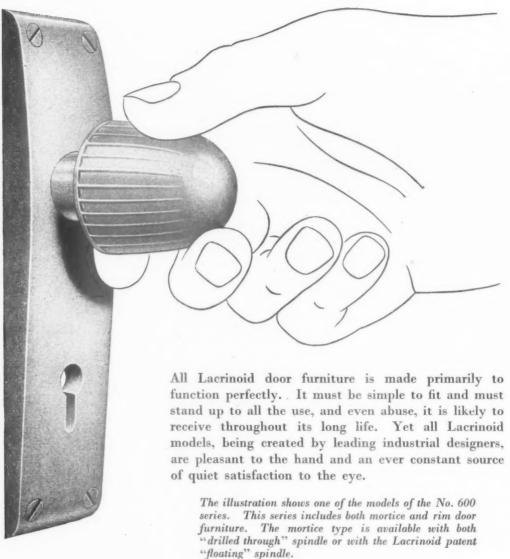
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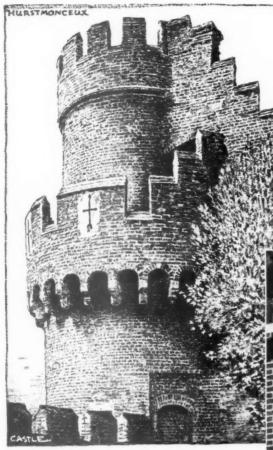


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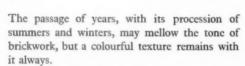
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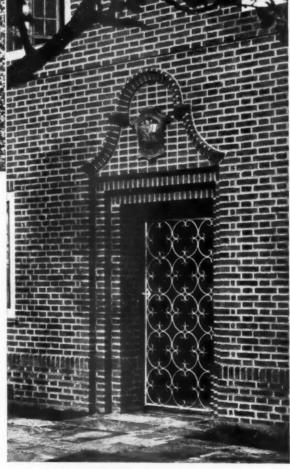
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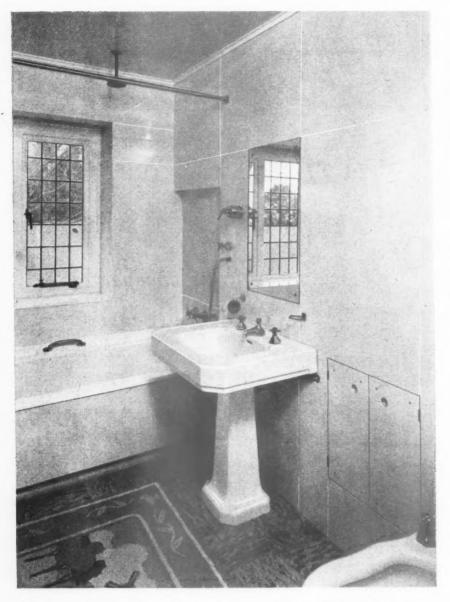
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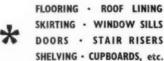
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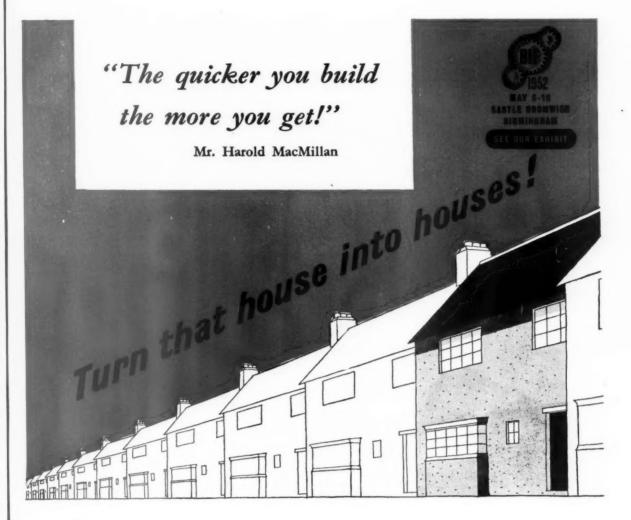
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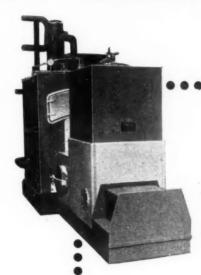
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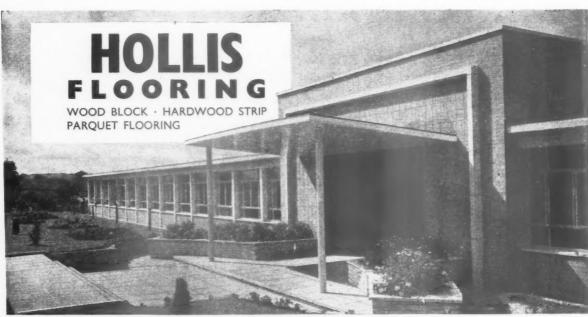
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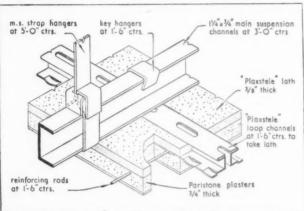
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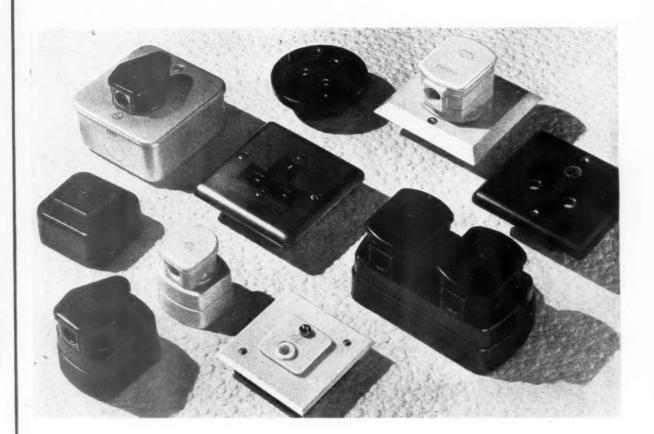
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> The South African Tourist Bureau, Piccadilly, London, W.I Architects: James Cubitt & Partners

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★ The accompanying photograph of the new South African Tourist Bureau shows how well WEATHERFOIL heat grilles fit into contemporary interior design.

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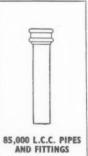




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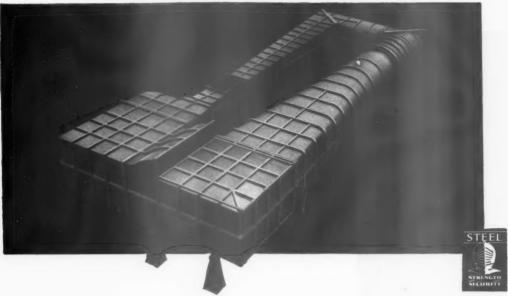
The illustrations are of a recent conversion at Abbey House, Victoria, London, S.W.1. Architects: Boreham Son & Wallace, London, W.C.1. Contractors: Lewis Bros. (Kings Cross) Ltd. London, N.W.1.

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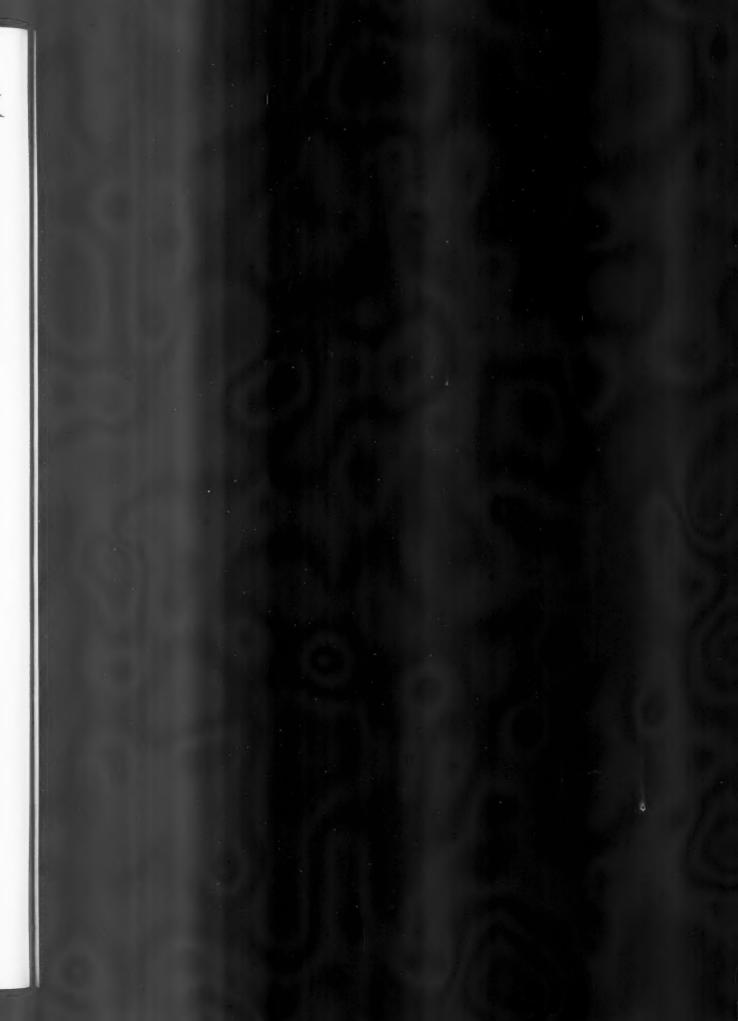
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THE ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL

**VOL 115** 

No. 2981 April 17, 1952

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THE HOUSING FRONT

The first half year of a new Government draws to an end without sign that anyone in authority has had any worth while new ideas on how to increase output of houses or to decrease cost, and it seems fair to say that so far the utterances of the two Ministers concerned have been very disappointing. One doubts in fact whether one Minister has given his mind to the problems or whether it matters whether the other one does or not.

ASTRAGAL does not expect any long advance on the technical side under existing conditions. By this time a large number of architects and builders know most of the answers. Prefabrication of structure is out until light

materials are plentiful, and though sizeable economies might result from the use of a standardized "service core" of kitchen-bathroom-W.C. and all plumbing, it is in carcassing—not in services—that the real delays occur; and any attempt to introduce a standardized piece of accommodation would certainly not be worth the fuss such a suggestion would stir up. On the technical side Britain is doing well in spite of difficulties and hindrances.

In the USA Mr. Levitt's famous Levittowner house (1,070 ft. super) sells at 9,990 dollars—or about £3,300, and in Rhodesia a house of the same size doesn't cost much less.

. . . AND SOCIAL

So it's no surprise to find that the social (one can't say political) side of the problem has been receiving a lot of attention—sometimes well-informed (as in *The Town Planning Review* April 1951 and January 1952), sometimes otherwise. The central question is whether the inclusive rents of local authority dwellings are being kept undesirably low in relation to the cost of other essentials—like goods and clothes—and is this creating a demand that is unrealistic in the sense that the zountry has not the resources to meet it?

Technicians would be well-advised to keep out of this one. It's so simple. Probably only small proportions of local authority tenants could pay big rents without hardship; these tenants cause envy amongst would-be tenants out of all proportion to their numbers; the problem could easily be solved by a means test and . . . well, there you are, you see. You were warned not to play with explosives.

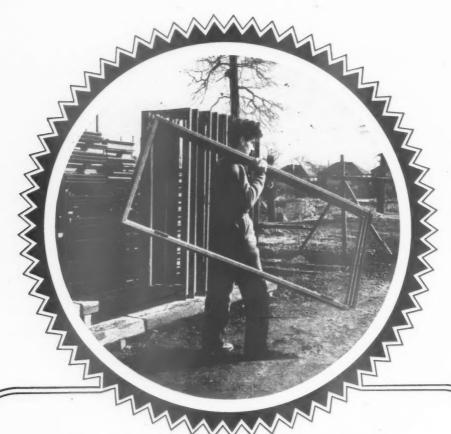
CLIMBING UP A HOUSING QUEUE

I can see a few minor fireworks being set alight in Ipswich where the local Housing Authority has decided to count " courting " time when allocating houses, even though it counts only at half rates, i.e., "12 months courting time = 6 months marriage." have been so many complaints from engaged couples who can't be put on housing lists until they are actually married that this idea seems sound enough, though just who decides what is and what is not courting nobody seems to know. But I can see a whole crop of all too obvious music hall jokes about it, and I don't want to hear any of them.

UNWIELDY LIES THE BOARD . . .

A few weeks ago the Journal's editors complained that no architects had been appointed to the regional housing production boards set up throughout the country by MOHLG. (These boards, it will be remembered, are being formed "to bring all those concerned in housebuilding . . . into close co-operation so as to keep local housing programmes and their development under constant review and advise on the measures necessary to secure their punctual completion.") I have now heard that the Institute of Registered Architects was unkind enough to ask the Ministry of H and LG why there were no architects on the housing boards. It is always unkind to ask a Ministry a question of that sort; you know what the result will be just as you know what will happen when you put your foot in front of someone in a hurry. And this time the Ministry concerned, while retaining its air of dignity, fell flat on its face.

It was thought, said the Ministry, that



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"the boards should be kept quite small and limited to the three Ministries concerned with the problem of representation of the employers and operatives in the building industry. If any particular profession had been represented it would not have been possible to resist the claims to representation of all the professions concerned, and the boards would have been unwieldy."

Well, maybe. The smaller any board is, usually the better. But I can't help feeling that here the architect—so often, admittedly, a self-invited interloper upon the social scene—would be a welcome and useful guest, even at the expense of a few protests from the "other professions."

#### VAN RIEBEECK FESTIVAL

Despite a deeply disturbed political background, Capetown's Van Riebeeck Festival Exhibition-which closed its gates last week-seems to have been a great success. It attracted over three quarters of a million visitors (which is an extraordinarily high proportion of South Africa's very scattered population). Its run was extended by popular demand for an extra week. Familiar criticisms abounded of course -so usual and familiar according to Hugh Casson, who has just flown back from a short stay there, that he felt as if he were seeing a feature film round again-weather unreliable and shortage of wallboard. Constant comment that public money should not be wasted on exhibitions but devoted to hospitals and workers' housing. Endless complaints about car-parking and catering prices, and within the exhibition itself, the old faults of not enough seats and too much litter. The general standard of design, I gather, was undistinguished. There were few architects' jobs in evidence at the Fair. Not surprising really considering the sort of business they're doing out there just now. Every pocket so bulging with jobs apparently that if a contract drops to the ground nobody bothers to pick it up, however many noughts it has written on it. Something like 73 million pounds' worth of new building work was authorized in the Union last year, despite shortages and minor building restrictions, and no smell of real estate and wet concrete stifles the workers in the big cities. "Can't last, old boy," says the architect, absent-mindedly



Osbert Lancaster's design for the ballet, "Bonne Bouche" which opened at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden last week.

ordering the second Cadillac. "Things are getting very difficult. And one can't get any assistants who know anything for love or money." And they certainly offer money. In Nairobi, Hugh Casson says, he saw an advertisement asking for a draughtsman-RIBA inter standard—at a salary of £1,200 a year with free passage, long home leaves, and use of car! (Postscript for those who have already started to pack: Building is booming it's true. But if you put your ear close to the African ground you might detect also the faintest booming of unrest and discontent, and it's anybody's guess as to which boom will be the loudest in twenty years time.)

## NEWS FROM DUBLIN

Equally brisk activity on the building front is, reported in Eire from a colleague just back from Dublin—though not always in the offices of architects. There is a large amount of suburban house building, but the greater part of it is spec-builder's stuff. In fact he describes the architectural scene as oddly reminiscent of London between the wars; that is, before the present planning acts.

Speculative housing estates are spreading over the green countryside all round the city; ribbon-development is rampant; flashy designs and substitute materials (especially the garish white and red of the concrete blocks and cement roofing tiles that seem to have replaced burnt clay bricks and

tiles altogether) make the ubiquitous semi-detached villas hideous in a fashion that our austerity-controlled local authority housing has happily made a rarity.

But there is a quantity of good architecture to set off against these horrors: some decent hospitals and schools, at least one neatly laid out housing scheme by David Hanley, borough architect of Dun Laoghaire, and Michael Scott's brightly coloured bus garage at Donnybrook, with Ireland's first shell-concrete roof, designed by Ove Arup.

And, of course, there's the bus terminus, also by Michael Scott, still going strong apparently as the perennial subject of argument—and not only among architects. "What do you think of the bus terminus?" is the first question everyone asks, my colleague tells me, but most often the answer is only required as fuel for the fires of political controversy in which this enterprise has been involved since it was started under the last Government but one.

No wise Englishman ventures an opinion on Irish politics. My informant's architectural opinion is that the half completed building is highly promising and in spite of a somewhat untidy skyline consorts surprisingly well with the Custom House nearby. It is due to be finished at the end of this year. When that time comes, as a subject for argument it will be sadly missed.



# Social Improvisation in Danger

Not just a Bank-holiday snap from a mediæval town. It always looks like holiday time in those few market towns such as Ross-on-Wye (shown here), where, by an oversight of officialdom, people may still come and go—in some parts, at least—as they please. On the right of the picture is the old market hall; in front of it—from the point where the High Street splits in two and dodges around it—the townsfolk gather in the open market-place, enjoying what Eric de Maré, writing in the current Architectural Review, calls "social improvisation." This, he points out, is the country town's centre working naturally as it has worked ever since towns were first built. It seems miraculous that a few places like Ross-on-Wye have escaped the tidy mind that thinks there is a place for everything; the sort of mind responsible for the building of drab "keep-off-the-grass"

war memorials in civic centres. But even Ross-on-Wye is in danger. The picture above shows how social improvisation is menaced by traffic improvisation. The narrow mediæval street is allowed to carry arterial traffic, and from dawn till dusk great lumbering lorries skirt the fringe of the freely moving crowd, while bewildered policemen curse the obstructing market hall. Not only is there daily danger here to life; there is a danger that the mechanical monsters will, in time, break up the lively flow of townsfolk around their commercial centre. But perhaps the greatest danger is that officialdom will ignore the possibility of by-passing the traffic and with a few more signs and-who knows?even a repellent war memorial, will put the needs of longdistance traffic before those of the human being. (Photograph by Eric de Maré from the Architectural Review.)

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BIRMINGHAM SCRIMMAGE

The whole drift of RIBA policy in recent years has been to advocate a closer link between students and real building—a policy with which we would all agree. The Allied Society's Conference indeed set up a special ad hoc committee to report on the matter, but so far as I know this Committee's efforts, like those of so many other committees, has been abortive. the other hand Douglas Jones, principal of the Birmingham School, has been carrying out RIBA policy in his own way. With the full co-operation of Donald Gibson, of Coventry, his students have designed and completed full working-drawings for eight oldpeople's bungalows, six garages and three blocks of flats (about twenty flats in all), and are now seeing their own work built in Coventry. Douglas Jones remains the "architect" in the sense that he is under seal to the City of Coventry, though whether his fees eventually go to ABS or some other deserving charity is his own affair.

Congratulations all round? Not a bit of it! Some members of the profession at least show every symptom of being about to go up in very black smoke indeed. Of course the project has its debatable features-and I should like to hear the views of readers on thembut the objectors cannot have it both ways. Year in, year out they complain -not surprisingly-of the lack of realism in architectural education; but they complain even more when some experimental steps are taken to put it right. After all, if architecture were a heavy industry the principals of that industry would have to put their hands deep in their pockets to equip the Birmingham School with expensive plant-that is if they were to get their apprentices trained at all. As it is they seem to be doing nothing but behave in the manner traditionally associated with dogs in mangers—is it called sometimes "restrictive practices?"

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The whole thing contrasts with Robert Jordan's experiment at the AA when students worked as navvies on big jobs. In that case the trade unions were, he told me, sweetness itself, or is this just due to the fact that the unions were consulted before the experiment, and that the RIBA perhaps was not?

ASTRAGAL

# POINTS FROM THIS ISSUE

# The Editors

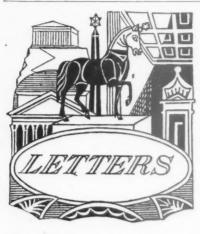
# ARE WE OBSOLETE?

IT is fashionable these days for teams to travel to the USA and to come back full of bright ideas on efficiency and organization and to tell us either directly or indirectly that the building industry in this country is inefficient, out of date and generally moribund. (An interesting exception is reported this week on pages 493 to 495. It concerns preliminary research on one-pipe plumbing carried out by Birmingham students.) It is refreshing, therefore, to read in a recent issue of *The Architectural Record*, that the United States, as far as plumbing is concerned, has problems similar to our own.

In a report on plumbing, which is seeking to find economies in both dollars and scarce material, the following passage occurs:—"Obsolete codes impose unnecessary expense on the public in many different ways. Oversized pipes must be used, and vents that are not needed must be installed. Designers and contractors must be familiar with the multitudinous details of the different codes where they work. . . . Of fifty typical cities recently surveyed, twenty have either adopted the National Plumbing Code or are revising their codes so as to agree with it. Five other codes require extra-heavy, castiron soil pipe for the building sewer. Seven require the installation of a house trap and fresh air inlet, which are not recommended in light of present knowledge. Ten of the codes require that the unvented length of a fixture drain must not exceed 2 ft." The Code is described on pages 495 to 496. The purpose of drawing attention to this interesting quotation is not merely to show that other people may be in as big a mess as we are but rather to illustrate the need for a clear and comprehensive statement on the subject of drainage here. Our own Post War Study Committees made various suggestions about disposal of waste and layout of drains. Years have since passed and all that the average practising architect is aware of is that one-pipe plumbing is now "on" if he wishes to use it. A few papers have been given on the subject and many opinions expressed about the need for venting or nonventing of various parts of a disposal system.

We suggest that real economies could be made if the authorities came to some definite agreement about a set of minimum

standards and then gave their decisions wide publicity. Piping of all kinds is very expensive. It is also very difficult to get at the moment, and is likely to remain so. A clear lead, perhaps in the form of a BRS Digest or two, would be invaluable, if at the same time there could be a direction that local authority officials must allow work to proceed if done in accordance with the recommendations.



Eric Ambrose, F.R.I.B.A.

Alexander C. Hardy, B. Arch., A.R.I.B.A.

G. C. Hodges, A.R.I.B.A., A.M.T.P.I.

Eric de Mare, A.R.I.B.A. Secretary of The Company of Free Men

" As Anonymous as Astragal"

# WDC Witch-hunt?

SIR,-We have had occasion to remark in recent months a very regrettable tendency on the part of certain regions of the War Damage Commission to attempt to reduce the already inadequate contribution payable to claimants for the services of professional advisers. We are satisfied that this attitude is not condoned by the hierarchy at the Commission's Headquarters, for when any givenness on this score have archy at the Commission's Headquarters, for when our grievances on this score have been referred to Devonshire House, we have received not only courtesy, but an admission of our claim.

Recently, however, we have come across what must surely be the very nadir of all

regional parsimonies.

Our client is a chartered accountant owning business premises scheduled by the LCC as being of historic interest and requiring specially careful treatment. instructed us to prepare a specification of War Damage, agree the claim with the Commission, supervise the work and advise upon its progress, settle the accounts with the Commission and obtain payment of the agreed sum upon completion. The work was carried out by a building firm of which the accountant was a director.

The Commission's regional manager has now refused to pay our client a contribution towards our fees because . . "Where a builder carries out repairs to his own property, the Commission think it generally reasonable to expect that the employment of an architect or surveyor is unneces sary . . . the supervision of the builder's

accounts are . . . an essential part of the professional services . . . where owner and builder are the same, those services are

plainly unnecessary . . ."

Avoiding all legal argument as to whether our client can in fact be termed "the builder," the extraordinary action appears to us to savour of the witch-hunt.

Builders who own their own premises are openly discouraged from employing architects, whatever the magnitude of the pro-posed work. A chartered accountant, or any other technically unqualified building owner who becomes a director (maybe even a shareholder!) of a building firm is at once qualified to act as architect or surveyor by edict of a regional manager of the WDC.

To argue that the Commission has never paid a builder professional fees where plans or specification have been prepared, but has simply allowed him "the proper cost" of these items, is surely a foolish

quibble.

Letters such as the one we quote, not only recommend a director of a building company not to employ an architect, but suggest that a builder can do an architect's work and no doubt some of them will produce such a letter to a client as proof of the fact that he can actually save money by dispensing with professional advice! The reason given by the Commission that an architect cannot hold the scales between contractor and client when they are one and the same person and should not therefore be paid for by the Commission, despite the fact that he carries out all the duties we have enumerated, was surely never the in-tention of those who drafted the War Damage Act.

When will the regional offices of the Commission realize that the architect is their friend, doing a difficult job honestly and conscientiously, and by his knowledge and ability, saving his client—and the country—time and money?

Abortive attempts (we hope!) such as the one we have described, ought not to be made by the Commission, even if they are not condoned at headquarters, and the architect ought not to be subjected to these aggravations.

ERIC AMBROSE.

# Development Charge

SIR,-I read with interest the article on Development Charge in the JOURNAL for March 27, but do not consider that enough emphasis was laid on the fact that the Develepment Charge virtually increases in pro-portion to land values in the open market. I have recently had an example where the price asked for a normal sized plot of land, part of the curtilage of an existing dwelling, was over £1,000, and due to the scarcity of plots, this high price was paid, even although no claim had been made by the vendor on the £300 mill. Fund. When the Development Charge was assessed it was approximately 100 per cent. of the purchase price A Government publication on the 1947 Act states: "One purpose of the Act is to freeze the value of land to roughly the value for its existing use—that is to say, that in future a landowner, when he sells his land, can expect to receive only its value for the use to which it is actually being put at

that time." It would appear that this purpose of the Act has been forgotten, as well as the powers of the Central Land Board to as the powers of the Central Land Board to purchase land by compulsion, at District Valuers' price, should development be restricted by the high price being asked for land ripe for development in the open market. Instead it appears that the Treasury are cashing in on the excessive prices being asked for building plots in areas where they are scarce.

It is obvious that the Act is not facilitating development, as was intended, but is in fact discouraging it, and in view of the present housing shortage it is high time that the Section of the Act dealing with Development Charges was revised.

Charges was revised.

ALEXANDER C. HARDY

Bedford.

# Black Marx for Astragal

SIR,—ASTRAGAL has got it wrong again. Karl Marx was not with his daughters when they were nearly crushed to death by the crowd which surged through Temple Bar Wellington's funeral.

Wilhelm Liebknecht had taken the two little girls to see the show, and he records how the children were swept away from him how the children were swept away from him through one of the three gateways, and were saved because they "posted themselves behind a projection of the wall that had caused the pressure." Several women were killed, and "the frightful scenes of that afternoon were largely instrumental in helping to break down Temple Bar, that abominable obstruction to traffic."

And if ASTRIGAL thinks what I think be

And if Astragal thinks what I think he thinks, his mind is even more warped than I had believed.

G. C. HODGES.

Croydon.

# Where Credit is Due

SIR,—ASTRAGAL has been misinformed. As secretary of a new body which exists to establish Social Credit, I wish to point out that the Social Credit boys do not ask "why we need money anyway." They ask simply that total purchasing power shall be related to total price values—in other words that we shall be allowed to consume what we produce. The implications of that, especially for architects, are enormous.

ERIC DE MARE

London.

# Hulls Delight

SIR,—Reading with interest and amusement ASTRAGAL'S note "Hulls Delight" (AJ: March 27) prompts me to write to you.

The Hull students of today are quite right in their awareness of the rarity of modern building in Hull. Yet Hull School itself has played a part in the modern movement. Immediately before the war J. L. Martin was its head, and Max Lock his successor. and those of us who had the fortune to study under these leaders are never likely to lose our enthusiasm for their schools of thought, though many of us are far from Hull and not always easily able to make our influence

Let it not be thought that there is no Let it not be thought that there is no modern building near Hull even if none springs to mind in the city. Martin and Napper built houses at Swanland and Kirkella repectively. There is a house at Kirkella which I believe was designed by a now famous Professor of Architecture in South Africa. Martin also did minor work in Hull and I believe a local architect of great standing in the profession who hall great standing in the profession who has strong sympathy with contemporary work did much to make all this possible.

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house ment Econ been Scott 6d.). claus Apart from these points the main claim the city has to fame is historical and industrial. It is, in fact, in many respects quite unique, and even architecturally has had rare features mostly destroyed as in the case of the curious Edwardian cupola the case of the curious Edwardan cupola to Powdnys in King Edward Street, which you will find on old postcards, occasional gables of the same period in Jamison Street and Prospect Street which have a Dutch flavour. The town planning of the Victorian Avenue district, its level crossings and its open drains and watercourses. I could go on, but why does not ASTRAGAL go and see for himself?

" AS ANONYMOUS AS ASTRAGAL."

[Hull will be included in the JOURNAL'S series of articles on the rebuilding of blitzed towns which begins next week with Canterbury.-ED.]



# LCC

#### Bank Promenade South Opened to Public

Last week the South Bank promenade between the Thameside Restaurant and County Hall was opened to the public. It will be open until half an hour after sunset every day, although parts of it may be closed between now and mid-Summer, while certain demolition work is carried out on exhibition buildings

ertain definition work is carried out on exhibition buildings.

The cantilevered viewing platform in front of the Royal Festival Hall is now accessible from the promenade, and until its demolition the public will again be able to walk

Ition the public will again be able to walk around the Skylon.

By May 24, at the latest, when the Festival Gardens re-open in Battersea Park, the Festival Hall Pier (formerly Rodney Pier) will be in use again. By this time the garden layout near the Pier and the Thameside Restaurant is expected to be completed.

# SCOTLAND

# Economy in Building

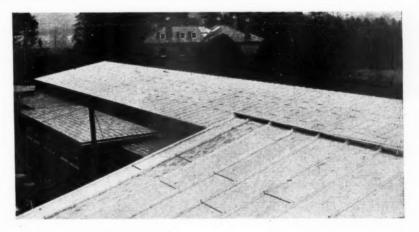
A penalty clause for late completion of houses would help to speed up work on traditional housing contracts, says a new Department of Health for Scotland handbook Economy in House Building, which has just been issued to local authorities (Part VI, Scotlink Housing Handbook HMS) price Scottish Housing Handbook, HMSO, price 6d.). The handbook points out that a penalty clause is already standard practice in nontraditional housing.



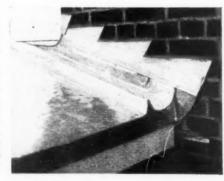
In the JOURNAL for March 27 it was announced that these flats in Hamburg were designed by Corbusier. That was the information given by a news agency. But in fact the flats were designed in 1945-46 by a panel composed of a special Royal Engineer Unit, representatives of Control Commission, Germany and co-opted Hamburg architects. The architects employed were Lt.-Col. G. W. H. Ryland; Captain D. R. Borrett Captain R. J. Brown, Captain J. F. R. Pullan, Lt. D. I. S. Davis, R. H. Browning (ex-Major R.E.), and Miss D. M. Bott.

The handbook reminds local authorities of methods by which they can keep building costs down without falling below the postwar standards, and without resorting to shoddy workmanship or materials. It insists that local authorities should not try to save by measures which will make their houses have consequently the live in less dweether release. less convenient to live in, less durable, or less resistant to cold, damp or noise.

Among the suggestions is care in pre-planning every stage of site preparation and building so that costly delays are avoided. Normally a year's building programme should be carried out on the minimum pos-sible number of sites. Building twelve houses on one site and twelve on another is normally dearer than building twenty-four on the same site.



Almost two tons of 22 s.w.g. superpurity aluminium, covering 7,500 square feet, were used in roofing a new primary school, above, at Kingsworthy, Winchester, designed by Simpson Low, the County Architect. This is the largest installation of its kind. The conical roll method of jointing was specified. The fixing contractors, Builders Iron & Zincwork, Ltd., found the aluminium suited to the standard hard metal roofing technique employed. Right, stepped flashings to a chimney stack. The metal cost less, at present day prices, than any comparable gauge in any roofing metal.



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e is no if none rtin and nd and house at ecture in or work hitect of who has try work Local authorities, the handbook adds, should make sure they are not building too many houses of four or more apartments. The fullest possible use must be made of these larger houses once they are built. A policy of decanting "shrinking" families from under-occupied houses should be followed.

There should be a minimum of pure decoration, which the handbook describes as often a substitute for good architectural design. Porches and balconies should not be added solely to improve the elevation. In dirtladen atmosphere white or coloured washes need too much maintenance. Hedges should be used in place of screen walls and garden walls.

walls.

The handbook lists examples of equipment which should always be omitted from local authority houses.

These are refrigerators, washing machines, picture rails, wireless and television aerials, locks on living room, kitchen and cupboard doors.

The handbook states that stone can still be used for building where there is a need to maintain employment among local stone masons, or where the cost of stone as a building material does not greatly exceed that of brick. There is a special subsidy for the use of stone when it is called for by the nature of the surroundings.

# LCC

# Allocation of Houses: No Queue Jumping

At last week's meeting of the LCC Alderman A. R. Stamp, chairman of the housing committee, said there was no justification for suggesting that there had been any queue-jumping in the allocation of the council's houses. He resented the continuance of the term "queue-jumping." The prominence given to it in the recent election was unjustifiable.

# BRACKNELL

# New Town's Master Plan on View

A public exhibition of the draft master plan of Bracknell New Town will be held at the British Legion Hall, Rochdale Road, Bracknell, Berks., from April 22 to 27. The hours-of opening will be from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., except Saturday (10 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.) and Sunday (12 noon to 6 p.m.).

# NFBTE

# Gibraltar Association Now Affiliated

The Gibraltar Master Builders Association has become affiliated to the NFBTE. The number of overseas builders' organizations affiliated to the Federation is now nine.

# DSIR

# Annual Report on Forest Products Research

"Forest Products Research, 1950," published recently by HMSO for DSIR, price 3s., by post 3s. 2d., describes the fundamental research and advisory work carried out at Princes Risborough during the year.

WORK IN PROGRESS AT THE NEW



The site for the new University in Mexico is the Pedregal of San Angel, a bed of volcanic lava under which the oldest known civilisation of Mexico once thrived The University, which has been designed by 150 architects under the direction of Carlos Lazo, involves in its construction most of the problems of a new city. It is designed to be "a place of great beauty as well as a centre of learning," for over a million trees have been planted in the precincts. For the few displaced families who had built their humble homes among the volcanic ashes a new village has been built. The photograph above shows the Faculty of Science under construction. It is shown again below.



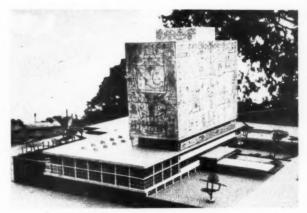
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# UNIVERSITY CITY, MEXICO

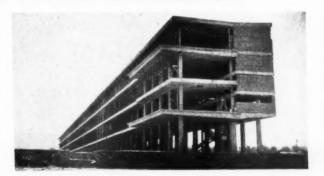


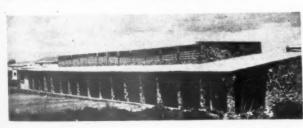


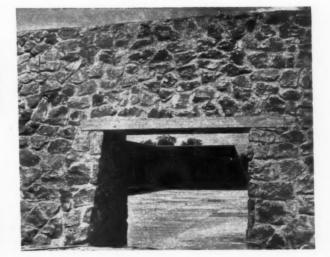
Above: a model of the National School of Engineering. Above, right: a model of the central library. Right: a model of the layout of the University City. Below: the sports stadium, which is to hold over one hundred thousand spectators, under construction. Below, right: the Humanities Building, which is to house the Faculties of Economy, Law Philosophy and Letters, being built. Bottom, left: top, a school for the displaced villagers' children; beneath it, a view of the courts in which "frontón" is played. Bottom, right: entrance to one of these courts.













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# HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

# The First New Town to Complete 1,000 Houses

More than a thousand houses have now been completed at the new town of Hemel Hempstead. It is the first new town to build a thousand houses and has been consistently hitting its target of housing production. It is expected that 1,000 houses will be completed during this year and between 1,200 and 1,500 during 1953.

On Wednesday, April 23, Mr. Marples, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Housing and Local Government, will hand over the key of No. 2, Haleswood Road, Adeyfield, to the Corporation's 1,000th tenant, Richard J. Banks. After the ceremony, Mr. Marples will go on a tour of development in the new town accompanied by the new tenant, Richard J. Banks and Henry W. Wells, chairman of the Hemel Hempstead Development corporation.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will lay the foundation stone of Adeyfield Church on Saturday, July 19.

[Progress to date in Hemel Hempstead New Town was shown in an aerial photograph in an article in the JOURNAL for April 10.]

# DIARY

Design and the Public. The Influence of the South Bank and Battersea. Misha Black. At 88, Regent Street, W.I. (Sponsor: Institute of Public Relations.) 6.30 p.m.

Sculpture in Gardens. Reg Butler. At the Housing Centre, 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1. (Sponsor: ILA.) 6 p.m. APRIL 17

Exhibition of Golden Lane Housing Competition Entries. At RIBA, 66, Portland Place, W.1. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. UNTIL APRIL 19

British Standards and the Architect. Joint lecture by E. D. Mills, P. Cutbush and G. Weston. At RIBA, 66, Portland Place, London, W.1. 6 p.m. APRIL 22

Survey and Plan for Woolwich Town Centre. Discussion led by Arthur Ling. At 13, Suffolk Street, S.W.1. (Sponsor: HC.) 6 p.m. APRIL 22

RSI Health Congress. At Margate, The Organization and Design of Hospital Out-Patient Departments, Brigadier J. Bigby Welch; Physical Planning and the Housing Drive, J. W. R. Adams; The Discharge of Trade Effluents into Sewers, W. H. Lockett; Some Aspects of Housing, with particular reference to Rural Areas, A. A. Armes; and other papers.

APRIL 22-25

A Review of Current Research in Heating and Ventilating. A lecture by N. S. Billington. At Engineering Centre, 351, Sauchiehall Street Glasgow. (Sponsor: IHVE, Scottish Branch.) 6.30 p.m.

Exhibition of Italian Contemporary Architecture. At 66, (Sponsor RIBA.) Mondays to Fridays: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. UNTIL APRIL 30

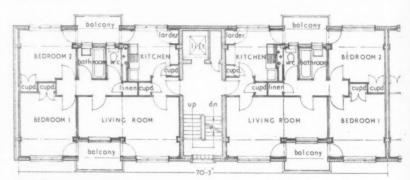
Amenities in Factory Design. A lecture by Walter R. Bennett. At RSA, John Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.2. 2.30 p.m.

Pavilion, Eastbourne. At Winter Garden Pavilion, Eastbourne. Those wishing to attend should write to: The Secretary, IES, 32, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

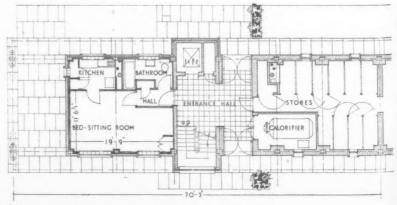
MAY 20-23



The Housing Committee of the City Council of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, concerned as to the fullest utilization of the limited area of land available for housing over the next 5 to 10 years, has decided in principle to erect multi-storey flats as well as normal 2- and 3-storey houses and flats. [A year ago the Council authorized the establishment of a Flats Section of the City Architect's Department (George Kenyon, City Architect, Raymond Ash, Deputy City Architect) to collaborate with the Housing Sections.] Unit 4 of the Longbenton Estate, the proposals for which are illustrated here, lies some 3 miles from the centre of the city on the northern perimeter. The site is of 240 acres, of which approximately 150 are available for housing. About 40 acres.



Typical upper floor plan



Half ground floor plan, seven-storey block [Scale: \( \frac{1}{4}'' = 1' \) 0"]

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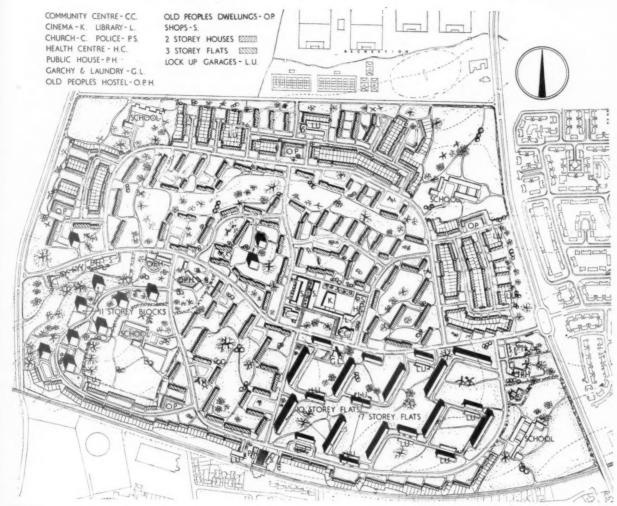
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# ON THE LONGBENTON ESTATE, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE



Site plan

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will be reserved for schools, 12 acres for homes for aged persons and the balance for shopping centre, churches, public buildings and open spaces. The housing development comprises a first stage of 1,000 flats in 7-storey blocks, seen in the perspective

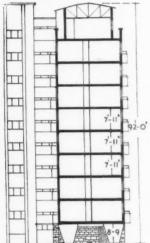
sketch opposite and 10-storey blocks, seen right. Subsequent stages will comprise 3-storey flats, houses with private gardens and a number of 10-storey point blocks. The total number of units will be about 3,200 and the estimated capital cost of the development as a whole will be approximately £7,000,000. The first stage, which has gone out to tender, contains ten 16-storey blocks, each containing 74 flats, and ten 7-storey blocks of 26 flats. The area occupied, 35'6 acres, gives a gross density of 28 flats per acre. Bed-sitting rooms will have a floor area of 340 sq. ft.

(average): 1-bedroom flats, 473 sq. ft.; 2-bedroom flats, 667 sq. ft.; 3-bedroom flats 787 sq. ft. On the main floors each flat will have two balconies and stores are provided at ground level. The stores will have reinforced walls and roof to



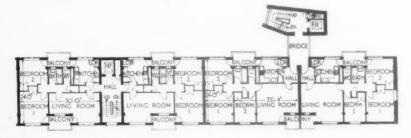
# PROPOSED HOUSING AT NEWCASTLE (continued)



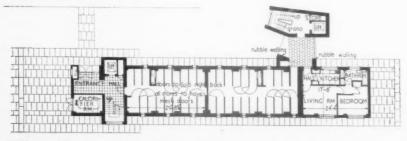


serve as air-raid shelters in accordance with Home Office instructions. All blocks will have passenger lifts in addition to staircases and 104 garages will be provided in the first section. The sketch above shows the central colonnade of a 10-storey block. The design team is: W. A. Horne (Principal Assistant Architect, Flats), A. Fitch, D. H. Cunningham, B. I. R. Bird, J. A. Jarosy. The structural engineer is E. L. A. Czeiler, assisted by A. D. Makuch and T. W. Stevenson.

Cross section



Typical upper floor plan



Half ground floor plan, ten-storey block [Scale: 32"=1' 0"]



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# Compensation Cases

So far, the Government has merely nibbled at revision of the Town and Country Planning Act of 1947. The one amendment proposed is contained in the Town Development Bill. It is intended to drop from the 1947 Act the sub-section which allows the Minister to sanction the sale of the freehold of land acquired by a local authority only in exceptional circumstances. Even this looks more like a part of a "property-owning democracy" policy than an amendment of the law of planning. But, if the Government has not yet acted, the LCC has, over one instance.

The LCC is promoting a private Bill dealing with its purchase of Holland House, Kensington, and the surrounding fifty-four acres of open space. A proposal to secure the gardens of Holland House as an open space is admirable, but that is not the primary purpose of the Bill. Its purpose is to allow the LCC to honour its word over the compensation to be paid to the present owners.

Negotiations for the purchase of Holland House began in 1945. At that time, the LCC was due to compensate the owners on the basis of what the land was worth in 1939, and the value of fifty-four acres of unbuilt-on land in Kensington in 1939 would have been The negotiations were considerable. long drawn out. They had not been concluded by the time the 1947 Act came into operation, and that Act, of course, changed the whole basis of land valuation. In the case of Holland House, all the owner would have re-ceived in cash from the LCC would have been the value of an impossibly large residence, standing in grounds far more extensive than it needed when used in that way, and situated, in theory, in an area where the prospects of development were nil-a situation which it is an understatement to call artificial.

The owners of Holland House protested that the LCC was already committed to pay compensation calculated on the basis existing before the 1947 Act was passed. The LCC demurred. The matter went to arbitration and the arbitrator gave an award in favour of the owners. Despite the agreement which the arbitrator found existed, the LCC wondered, quite legitima ely, if

# LIBRARY IN WESTMINSTER

Misha Black and John Diamond (Design Research Unit) were the architects for this floor extension (in an adjoining derelict building) at the National Institute of Economic and Social Research in Dean Trench Street, S.W.1. Right: arranged as conference room with loose table leaves added. Below: details of furniture: table (specially designed), polished beech (Vynide top); chairs (standard type) upholstered to match curtains. Bottom: view through librarian's room (in old building) to library; magazine rack, glass shelves and grey felt backing; glazed screen to desk on right has cupboards underneath. Bottom right: specially designed table lamp with sprayed metal reflector, lacquered brass stem and polished beech base, which is also a pen tray.

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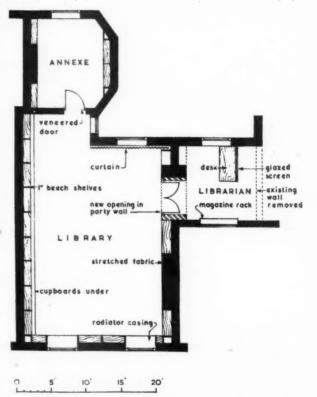
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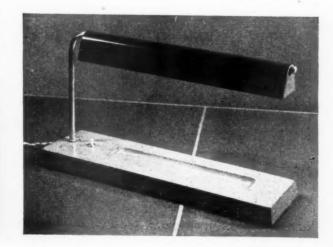
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the provisions of the 1947 Act did not make it illegal for it to pay out on that basis; whether, if it did, the members of the committee authorizing the payment might not be surcharged personally for the excess payment. In those circumstances, it is easy to understand why the LCC is seeking parliamentary authority to make the payment. That is one effect of the 1947 Act.

# ENFORCED INJUSTICE

There is a companion to this story, from Bristol, not involving so large a sum of money, nor so famous a property, but raising exactly the same principle. In January, 1948, before the 1947 Act was in force, the Bristol Corporation served on a property owner in the city a "notice to treat" in respect of his property; that is, the corporation gave notice that it intended to buy his property compulsorily. At that time, the owner, like the owners of Holland House, was entitled to the 1939 value of his property and it was agreed, in later proceedings, that its value, before the 1947 Act stripped it of its development rights, was £16,000. It was also agreed that its value without the development rights was £980, a difference of £15,020. In this case, too, the parties started no negotiations and the negotiations had not been completed by the fatal day, July 1, 1948. From then on, the story is different.

The Bristol owner saw in the 1947 Act a provision that "dead-ripe" land neither paid development charge nor carried a claim on the compensation fund. He assumed that "dead-ripe" land also ranked for compensation at its full value, £16,000. In this belief he obtained a certificate that the land was "dead ripe." The corporation's case was that it had never committed itself to any promise to pay compensation on the pre-1947 Act basis and that, in any case, immediately after July 1, 1948, it became illegal for it to pay anything in excess of the restricted value, £980. The Lands Tribunal, to which the compensation dispute was bound to go, upheld the corporation's contention and awarded £980, no more.

As the law stands, £980 is all the owner will get. When an owner obtains a "dead-ripe" certificate, he loses his claim on the Compensation Fund, and there are no exceptions to that rule (save those made by Bills such as that promoted by the LCC). The Bristol owner has lost both his development rights and his claim on the Fund. He cannot possibly get more than £980 for

owher has lost both his development rights and his claim on the Fund. He cannot possibly get more than £980 for property which admittedly was, four years ago, worth seventeen times as much, even on a compulsory purchase. Of course, the Bristol Corporation could, as the LCC has, promote a private Bill to allow it to remedy the injustice it has been compelled, by

statute, to inflict on one of its citizens.

There has been no indication, as yet, that it intends to do so.

THREE STANDS AT THE HOTEL,



On this page and opposite are illustrated three of the stands at the recent Hotel, Restaurant and Catering Exhibition in the National Hall at Olympia. Above and below are two views of the stand for Vine Products, Ltd., designed by Ronald Dickens (associate Richard B. Hornby), which was 30 ft. by 12 ft., raised on a 4-ft. platform,



and was divided into three areas, loggia, lounge and bar. One of the main features of the stand consisted of a series of enlarged press advertisements in line and wash by Anton, one of which was presented three dimensionally in a recess at the front of the stand. Three of these can be seen in the photograph above. The loggia was enclosed by a 2-ft. 6-in. grid of 4-in. by \frac{1}{2}-in. members painted white and used to carry trailing grape vines. The rear wall was painted jasmine yellow, the chairs were white and blue, RES and the with lounge platfor from gr covered carpet. 3-in. t white o makore with ri had a and m general stand Waller graphs this pa Newto Ltd., Barma and h and produ dispen the st two p in the

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# RESTAURANT AND CATERING EXHIBITION AT OLYMPIA

and the plant boxes white with blue studs. lounge and bar stood on a platform raised I ft. 4 in. from ground floor level and covered with a wine coloured carpet. The balusters were 3-in. tubular steel, painted white and the handrail was makore. The bar was faced with ribbed aluminium and had a grey linoleum top and makore footrail. The general contractors for this stand were G. & W. Waller, Ltd. The photographs top and centre of this page are of the stand for Newton Chambers & Co., Ltd., designed by Christian

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Barman to display a series of cleaning and hygienic products for use in hotels and catering establishments. These products included a new washing cream dispenser designed by the architect of the stand. The stand was divided into two parts; a demonstration area, seen in the centre photograph, and a display area for other products, seen above. The walls and columns in the demonstration space were finished in flat oil paint,







the colours were white, light blue and vermilion, and in the display area the walls were papered. All joinery was in beech, wax polished. The gencontractors were Beck & Pollitzer, Ltd. On the left is a view of the stand for Hussmann British Refrigeration, Ltd., who are suppliers and manufacturers of refrigerated display and storage units for use in cafeterias and selfservice restaurants. Bright contrasting colours were used as a background to show off the clean lines of the The stand was units. designed by Ian Baker and the general contractors were Pictorial Display, Ltd. For subcontractors, see page 500.

486) The Architects' Journal for April 17, 1952

# OFFICES

at THE HAGUE, HOLLAND

designed by D. ROOSENBURG, P. VERHAVE, and J. G. E. LUIJT

An office building for the central administration of KLM, the Dutch airline, was begun in 1939, when wing 4 (see site plan) was completed, but due to the war was not occupied by the clients until 1946. The remainder of the scheme was commenced in 1946 and now accommodate 1,800 employees and has direct communication to Schipol airport and the firm's branch offices in Amsterdam and Rotterdam. Wing 4 forms a self-contained building, with two entrances, four lifts and a restaurant and since the completion of the scheme has been let temporarily to an oil company.

View looking east across the Raamweg Canal.



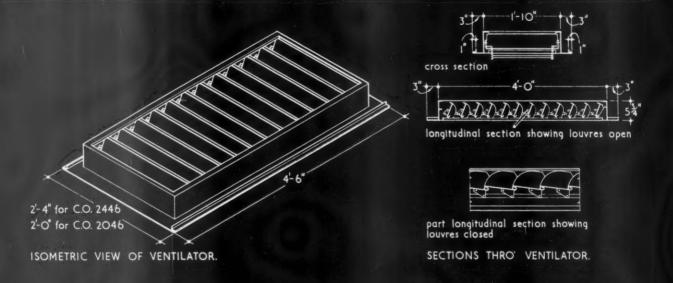
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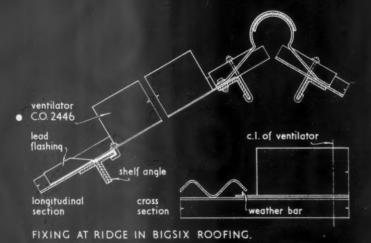
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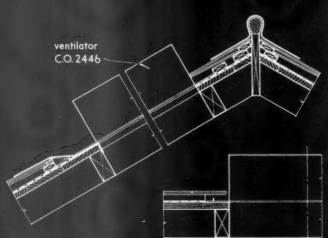
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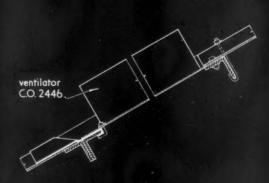


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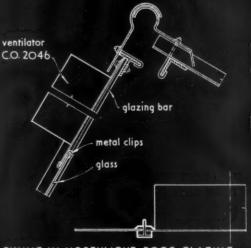








FIXING CLEAR OF RIDGE IN BIGSIX ROOFING.



FIXING IN NORTHLIGHT ROOF GLAZING.

FIXING IN SLATED ROOF.

# 30.D12 COLT C.O. 2446 AND C.O. 2046 EXTRACT VENTILATORS

This Sheet, the third of a series dealing with Colt ventilators, describes the Colt C.O.2446 and C.O.2046 clear-opening ventilators. The ventilators can be fixed in any type of roofing (including glazing) or wall: the drawings on the face of the Sheet give a general view and sections of the ventilators, together with details of typical fixings.

#### General

The ventilators are designed to provide the maximum unobstructed air space when fully open. When closed they are rainproof: channels at the sides carry the rainwater on to the lower part of the roof. The ventilators may be fixed singly or in pairs or may be arranged in batteries.

#### Sizes

The sizes of both ventilators are given on the face of the Sheet.

## Material

The material used is anti-corrosive hardened aluminium.

# Controls

The ventilator louvres are mounted in aluminium alloy bearings and connected to an aluminium control bar. The bar is operated manually by cord or chain, or it may be connected to remote control gearing for working one or more ventilators.

## Air Inlets

For the ventilators to work efficiently adequate fresh air inlets are essential and the total free area of inlets should be approximately double that of the extracts.

## Fixing

Owing to their light weight, the ventilators can be fixed in any part of the roof without additional roof reinforcement. Typical fixing details are shown on the face of this Sheet.

# **Applications**

The ventilators are recommended for foundries, laundries and other works where large quantities of hot or foul air, fumes, etc., have to be removed quickly.

#### **Pixing Service**

A service is provided for fixing Colt ventilators in any part of the country.

## **Further Information**

The manufacturers maintain a technical department and testing laboratory, together with an outside technical staff, resident in all the main centres throughout the country, who are available to answer questions and advise on technical problems and carry out site surveys.

The manufacturers also supply a comprehensive manual giving full technical details and containing nomograms from which the requisite number of ventilators can be calculated for any particular problem.

Compiled from information supplied by a

Colt Ventilation Limited.

Address: Surbiton, Surrey.
Telephone: Elmbridge 6511-5.
Telegrams: Coltile, Phone, London.

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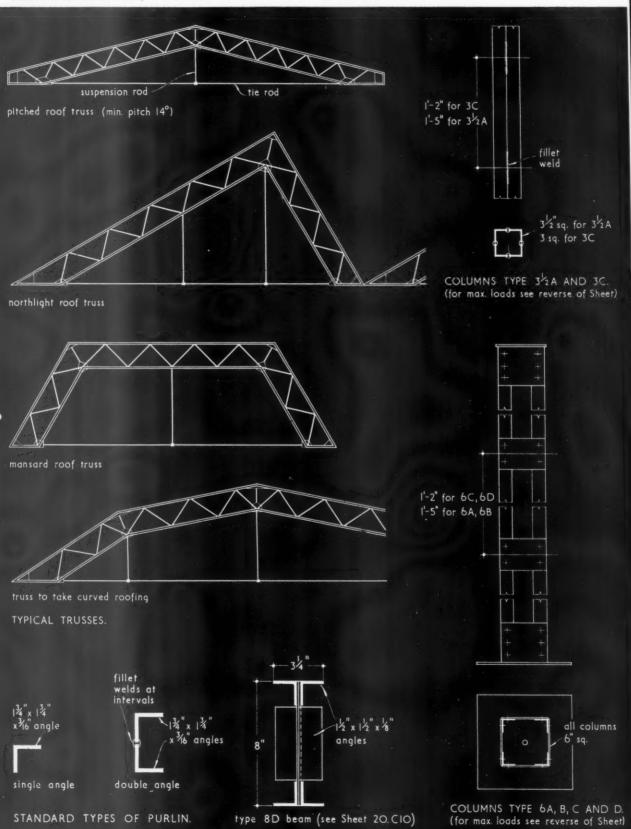




# FLOOR AND ROOF STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS STEEL

20.CII =

The Architects' Journal Library of Information Sheets 360. Editor: Cotterell Butler, A.R.J.B.A.



-SOMMERFELDS: HIGH-TENSILE STEEL TRUSSES, PURLINS AND COLUMNS. Compiled by R. A. Sefton Jenkins, B.Sc., A.C.G.L, A.M.L.C.E., for Sommerfelds Ltd.

# 20.C11 ·SOMMERFELDS· HIGH-TENSILE STEEL TRUSSES, PURLINS AND COLUMNS

This Sheet is the second of two dealing with structural components fabricated from light high-tensile steel sections. It describes trusses, purlins and columns. Beams are dealt with on Sheet 20.C10.

#### Material

The material used is re-rolled Railsteel.

#### Trusses

Trusses built up from the beams shown on Sheet 20.C10 may be used for spans rather larger than those which can be dealt with by a single beam or where a pitched or curved roof is required. Typical examples are given on the face of this Sheet but any design of truss to suit specific requirements is possible.

#### **Purlins**

Standard types of purlin are shown on the face of this Sheet.

The purlin may be a single 13 in. by 13 in. by 16 in. angle for spans up to 6 ft. 6 in. max.; two similar angles welded together to form a channel for spans up to 12 ft. 6 in. max.; a size 8D beam (see Sheet 20.C10) for spans up to 17 ft. 6 in. max.

# Columns

Each column is made from four angles, the size of angle being designated for convenience by letters, as follows :-

 $A = 1\frac{3}{4}$  in. by  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in. by  $\frac{3}{8}$  in.  $B = 1\frac{3}{4}$  in. by  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in. by  $\frac{1}{8}$  in.

 $C = 1\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $\frac{1}{6}$  in.  $D = 1\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. by  $\frac{1}{8}$  in.

Two standard types of column are available, 3 or 3½ in. square and 6 in. square.

3 or 3½ in. column: This type of column is suitable for lightly-loaded roofs at no great height, and is made up from angles A (3½ in.) or C (3 in.). Four angles are welded at intervals to form a box section, as shown on the face of the Sheet.

Maximum heights and loads are given below.

Height		Max. load in tons for inner columns		Max. load in tons for outer columns	
	3 į A	3C	3 ½ A	3C	
13.0	4.40	3.78	3.69	3.14	

6 in. column: This type of column is suitable for most constructions and is made up from four angles (A, B, C or D) battened together with plates, as shown. The maximum heights and loads are given in the tables below.

Height	Max. load in tons for inner columns			
	6 A	6 B	6 C	6 D
10 ft. 12 ft. 6 in. 15 ft. 17 ft. 6 in. 20 ft.	13·60 13·70 11·40 8·75 7·21	12·20 9·00 7·48 5·73 4·58 2·88	16·00 12·80 9·75 7·54 6·00 3·78	10 · 40 7 · 65 6 · 37 4 · 90 3 · 90

\* Maximum height permissible.

Height	Max.	Max. load in tons for outer columns			
	6 A	6 B	6C	6 D	
10 ft. 12 ft. 6 in. 15 ft. 17 ft. 6 in.	9·10 8·00 7·10	7·25 6·00 5·30 4·35 3·65	9·60 8·33 6·90 5·72 4·80	6·30 5·15 4·55 3·75	

\* Maximum height permissible.

#### Finish

In addition to the normal steelwork finishes, e.g., red oxide on wire-brushed steel, a special finish is available. This consists in principle of the chemical and mechanical removal of all rust and scale followed by one or two coats of primer and/or synthetic enamel. The use of this finish considerably reduces maintenance.

#### **Further Information**

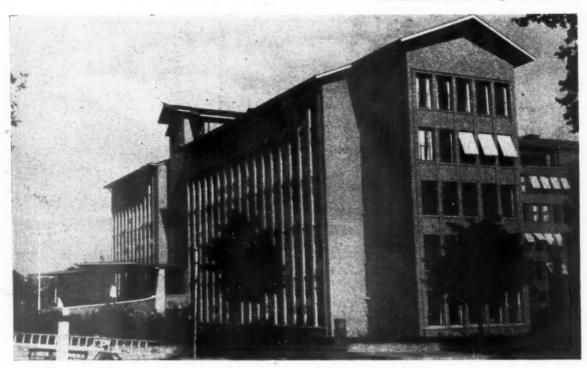
The manufacturer maintains a technical department which is prepared to advise on technical problems dealing with this subject.

Compiled from information supplied by:

Sommerfelds Ltd.

Address: Wellington, Shropshire.
Telephone: Wellington 1000 (5 lines).
London Office: 167, Victoria Street, S.W.I.
Telephone: Victoria 1000.

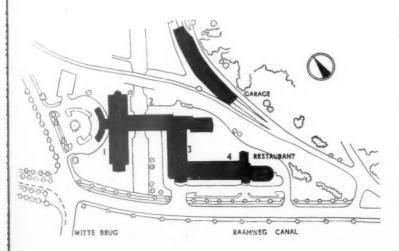
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Above, the northwest facade of wing I from the bridge over the Raamweg canal.

SITE.—The building is situated at an important cross-roads where the business and residential quarters of The Hague meet, and has a good view of the surrounding parks. To take advantage of this the architects designed the building to the maximum permitted height of 68.9 ft. A branch of the Raamweg Canal crosses the site and by a recession of wing 2, which bridges this branch canal, the architects have formed an interesting garden courtyard, open to the south-west. Garages for 1,000 cycles and 15 cars are built into the side of a small hill to the north-east of the site.

PLAN.—The total office space is 107,639 sq. ft. with another 32,392 sq. ft. for secondary services.



The main access for the public leads up a curved ramp to the entrance canopy, above which rises the central feature of wing I, a double lift shaft whose exterior is decorated with birds in brick relief. The main office areas are multiples of the module of 35.4 in., which is small, but allows great flexibility of subdivision. The internal partitions, which are made in five interchangeable types, can be dismantled in two hours per floor. In the basement are boiler rooms, circulation pumps, electric switch and control rooms, air conditioning plant, a cinema, post office and telephone exchange with 1,500 lines. The ground floor is mainly in wing 4, as the main entrance is at first floor level, the same level as the bridge over the branch canal. Leading off wing 4 is a restaurant with terrace overlooking the main canal, and a gymnasium with changing rooms for both sexes leads off wing 2. On the first floor are offices, rooms for medical and psychological services, laboratories, automatic record filing machines, inquiry rooms, and cloakrooms. On the second, third and fourth floors are the main offices for administration, advertising and general management, as well as conference rooms. On the fifth floor of wing 2 is a self-service canteen.

CONSTRUCTION.—Steel frame on a structural grid of 5.9 ft. Columns are encased in concrete and external walls are of concrete, brick faced. Ground floor is monolithic concrete, on which the steel







OFFICES

at the hague, Holland designed by D. ROOSENBURG, P. VERHAVE, and J. G.E.LUIJT

Above, left, looking down from the 5th floor at the junction of wings 2 and 3, with garden court below. Top, right, the north west facade and main entrance in wing 1. Above, the restaurant, a single storey projection on the ground floor of wing 4.

skeleton rests, while upper floors are of prefabricated RC slabs, 5.9 ft. by 1.47 ft., resting on beams at 5.9-ft. centres. Roofs are a metal frame construction. Internal partitions are of concrete blocks.

FINISHES.—The facing bricks are a light reddishbrown and vertical emphasis is given by double ribs to window surrounds, which are of vibrated concrete, prefabricated in sections, with a brick in-filling. Suspended ceilings are of 5.9 ft. sq. concrete slabs mixed with a volcanic sand and similar slabs are used on roofs, waterproofed with asphalt and with a final skin of copper sheets. Movable partitions are made of double sheets of aluminium with cork insulation between and safety glass panels.

SERVICES.—There are three oil-fired boilers and hot water radiators are installed throughout the building, except in the restaurant, which has radiant heating pipes in the floor. A system of light signals is installed throughout the building, by which each senior staff member has his own signal in the form of a combination of geometric shapes. Although the panels are small, sixty different combinations are possible. Air conditioning is provided in the restaurant, cinema and conference rooms.

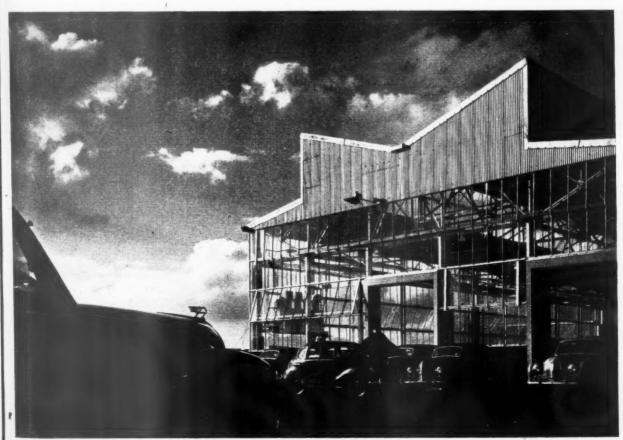
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#### FACTORY EXTENSION

at LONGBRIDGE, BIRMINGHAM designed by C. HOWARD CRANE

The new car assembly building for the Austin Motor Co. Ltd. has been built to receive component parts and accommodate four assembly lines, as well as offices, lavatories, locker rooms and first-aid room. The site was originally an aerodrome and had a convex surface which needed to be levelled. The original works are at a lower level, enabling a new bridge and tunnel to feed axles, engines, etc., to the underside of the assembly lines in the new building.

The south-west elevation.



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Cross section through assembly building [Scale: 01 = 1' 0"]

PLAN.—The length and number of assembly lines controlled the shape of the building and there is a saw-toothed receiving dock for component parts and shipping dock for export parts. Possible extensions on the east side and at the south end have been allowed for. Toilets are provided over the assembly lines, with staircase and balcony access.

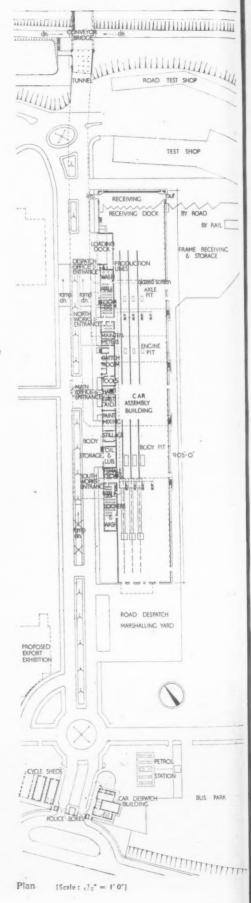
CONSTRUCTION.—The building is steel framed, and the external wall to the main facade is brick. Elsewhere, vertical glazing with aluminium frames.

#### FACTORY EXTENSION

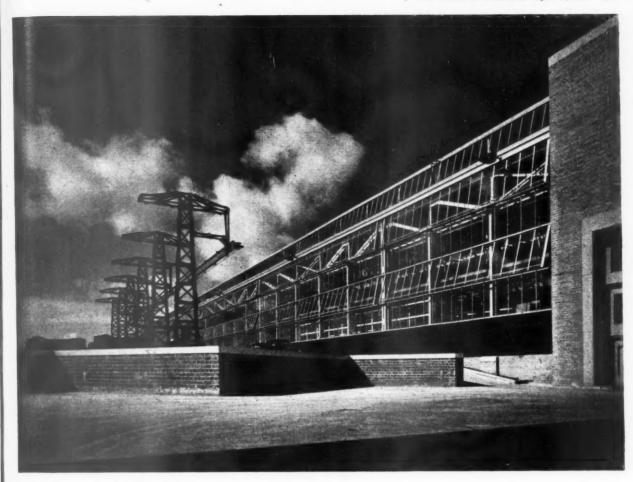
at LONGBRIDGE, BIRMINGHAM designed by C. HOWARD CRANE

Below, the north end of the north west facade.





Above, east fast dock for Below, to building justed. lavatori

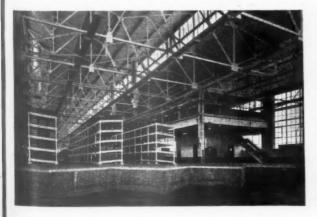


Above, looking south-west at the south-east facade. Below, the saw-toothed dock for receiving component parts. Below, right, the east side of the assembly building where imperfect cars are ad-justed. The stairs on the right lead to lavatories a'ove.

11111

Monitor roof lighting gives maximum daylight in the works. The main assembly floor is constructed of concrete with road fabric and suspended floors and flat roofs are of reinforced concrete. The bearing qualities of the site varied from rock and stiff clay to sand, and piling had to be used in places.

FINISHES.—The main roof is of protected metal sheeting with an insulating board lining carried on purlins. The north-west elevation is of facing







Left, the conveyor bridge leading to the original works at a lower level. Centre, left, interior of the bridge looking upwards. Centre, right, the conveyor tunnel under the dual carriageway.



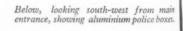


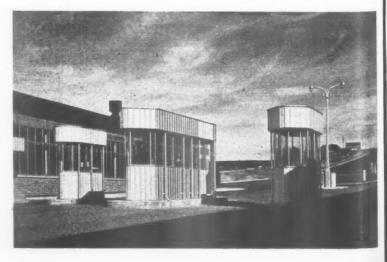
#### FACTORY EXTENSION

at LONGBRIDGE, BIRMINGHAM designed by C. HOWARD CRANE

bricks, with stone dressings and aluminium windows. The central doors are of armour-plate glass; elsewhere doors are steel. Internal partitions are standard steel, glazed. Walls are of fair faced painted brickwork internally. Floors: granolithic in the assembly area, thermoplastic tiles in offices and locker rooms, quarry tiles in lavatories, terrazzo on staircases. Staircases have aluminium balustrading.

SERVICES.—Heating of the main building is by unit heaters and elsewhere by radiators. Fluorescent lighting is provided over the assembly lines. Drains and roads allow for future development of the site. The general contractors were W. J. Whittall \( \frac{\pi}{2} \& \) Sons. For sub-contractors see page \( \frac{\pi}{2} \) 500.





## TECHNICAL SECTION

Last year O'Neil Ford, the Texan architect, described "slab lifting" to a somewhat sceptical audience of architects, engineers and contractors. (See JOURNAL for July 12, 1951). No fault has been found with this system of construction and it is now widely used in the USA, but no one in this country has yet given it a trial.

One of the reasons, no doubt, is the fact that the system uses more materials than conventional RC work, although it saves labour—an advantage in the USA, but a disadvantage here. An important new development (described on pages 497 and 499) is the lifting of slabs consisting largely of hollow concrete blocks. This is, naturally, more economical, both in cement and steel, and should make the use of slab lifting a more practical proposition in this country. Who will be our first architect to take advantage of this rapid and exciting method of building?

R. FITZMAURICE

## 25 WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION one-pipe plumbing

This week's special feature

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ntre,

The number preceding the week's special article or survey indicates the appropriate subject heading of the Information Centre to which the article or survey belongs. The complete list of these headings is printed from time-to-time. To each survey is appended a list of recently-published and relevant Information Centre items. Further and earlier information can be found by referring to the index published free each year.

In this week's leading article, on page 475, the need for research into one-pipe plumbing is stressed. To indicate one line of profitable development, the following report deals with some preliminary experiments carried out by Birmingham architecture students on some new municipal flats at Wolverhampton. Although the experiments are not conclusive, they suggest that further research might prove that one-pipe plumbing could be simplified without reducing its efficiency.

Fourth year students of the Birmingham School of Architecture have carried out recently an important series of tests on one-pipe plumbing. Having designed, as part of their syllabus, three-storey blocks of flats with one-pipe plumbing, they felt it would be extremely useful to determine the real value of and need for conventional

systems of waste and soil branch ventilation pipes.

Through the courtesy of Mervyn Law, Wolverhampton's Borough Engineer, and the architect, A. G. E. Chapman, the students obtained permission to make their tests on a completed section of Wolverhampton Corporation flats at Warstones Drive, which had not then

#### TESTS CARRIED OUT ON A "ONE-PIPE" SYSTEM OF PLUMBING

Test	Conditions of test			Loss of	Seal in		nts discl						
No.	Pipes as installed		Grou	nd flooi			First	floor			Second	d floor	
		Bath	Basin	W.C.	Sink	Bath	Basin	W.C.	Sink	Bath	Basin	W.C.	Sink
1	No paper used in w.c's	D	D	D	D	D 0"	D 0''	D	D 0"	D	D	D	D
2	Paper used [that on ground floor not flushed away]. X Branch blocked.	D	D	D	D	D 0"	D 0"	D	D 0"	D	D	D	D
.3	No paper used in w.c's.	D	D	D	D	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D	D	D	D

#### FIRST FLOOR BRANCH VENTS RENDERED INEFFECTUAL

	All fixtures plugged on the ground floor.					D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D	D	D	D
	All fixtures plugged on the ground floor. All fixtures unplugged on the first floor.					6"	0"	6"	0"	D	D	D	D
	All fixtures plugged on ground floor. Six pieces of newspaper in 2nd floor w.c. Mop used in flushing.					0"	0"	1"	0"	D	D	D	
	All fixtures plugged on ground floor. All fixtures unplugged on the 1st floor. 2nd fl. bath overflowing					6"	G"	0"	0"	D	D	D	I
3	2nd and ground floor baths overflowing. [Packet of sandwiches in ground floor w.c. not flushed away.]	D	D	D	D	0"	0"	0"	0"	D	D	D	E
)	2nd and ground floor baths overflowing.	D	D	D	D	6"	6"	0"	0"	D	D	D	
)	Bucket of water flushed in 2nd and ground floor w.c's at peak of discharge.	D	D	D	D	0"	0"	1"	0"	D	D	D	I

#### GROUND AND FIRST FLOOR VENTS RENDERED INEFFECTUAL

1	No paper used in w.c's.	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D	D	D	D
2	No paper used in w.c's.	D 0"	D ‡"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D	D	D	D
3	No paper used in w.c.	0"	G"	0"	0"	0"	0"	0"	0"	D	D	D	D
4	Ground floor discharges 5 seconds before 2nd floor fittings. 1st floor fittings plugged.	D 0"	D 6"	D 0"	D 0"	0"	0"	0"	0"	D	D	D	D
5	Ground floor discharges 5 seconds before 2nd floor fittings. 1st floor fittings unplugged.	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	0"	1"	0"	0"	D	D	D	D
6	No paper used in w.c's.	0"	0"	D 0"	0"	0"	0"	D 0"	0"			D	
7	W.c's flushed by bucket. No paper used at peak of discharge.	0"	0"	0"	0"	0"	0"	D 0"	0"			D	
8	W.c's flushed by bucket. Paper used at peak of discharge.	0"	0"	blow	0"	0"	1‡"	D 0"	3/1			D	
9	W.c's flushed by bucket. Paper used at peak of discharge.	0"	0"	blow	0"	0"	1"	D 0"	3"			D	
20	W.c's flushed by bucket. No paper used at peak of discharge.	0"	0"	blow back	0"	0"	1"	D 0"	1" -			D	
21	No paper used.	0"	0"	0"	0"	0"	0"	D 0"	0"			D	
22	Flushing in 1 second intervals in order—2nd, 1st, ground floor.	0"	0"	D 0"	0"	0"	0"	D 0"	0"			D	
23	Fittings discharged in order of floors at 1 second intervals. 2nd, 1st, ground floor.	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D 0"	D	D	D	Е
24	Vent stack blocked above roof level.	0"	0"	0"	0"	D 0"	D 1"	D 1/2"	D 4"	D	D	D	Ι
25	Vent STACK BLOCKED above roof level. First floor basin unplugged.	0"	1"	0"	0"	D 0"	11/	D 2½"	D 1/2"	D	D	D 1"	I

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CORROSIVE AGENT ... ACIDIC VAPOUR

STRUCTURE..... STEELWORK PLANT ..... PICKLING SHOP

### THE TROUBLE

The structural steel of a tubing manufacturer's new pickling shop was exposed to strong acidic vapour: how could the steel be protected against damaging corrosion?

#### THE TREATMENT

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All surfaces open to corrosive action were shrouded in a series of special protective coatings. Here's how the work was tackled. First, the skilled operatives handling the job flamecleaned and wire-brushed the whole of

the exposed areas. The cleaned steel was then treated with two coats of a rubber-based primer. On top of this were applied three layers of a flexible and completely corrosionresistant composition.

The effectiveness of this multi-coat treatment and the scrupulous care with which it was applied have been proved by results. The steelwork has been entirely free from corrosion—despite the fact that the vapour rising from the pickling tanks is acidic and at a high temperature.



The anti-corrosion treatment described was devised and carried out by the Industrial Division of Semtex Ltd., a Company in the Dunlop Group. The materials and methods used are typical of many which have been developed and perfected in the Division's own laboratories and works, and applied with success in almost every branch of Industry. This wide experience of corrosion counter-measures can be brought to bear upon the problem that is troubling you. Send your enquiry to:

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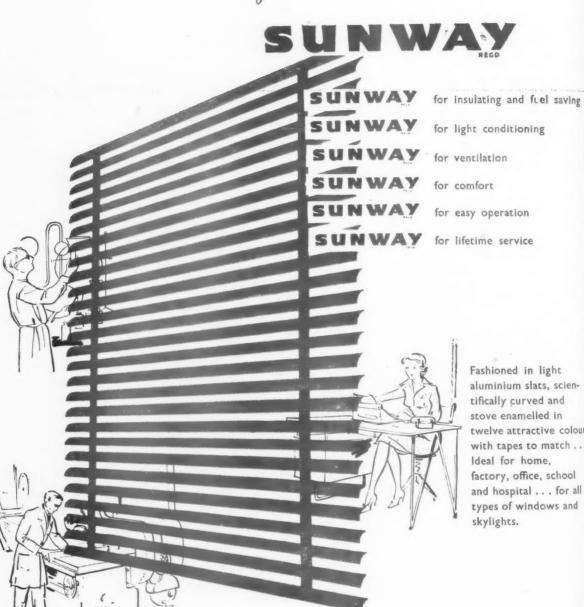
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been handed over for occupation. This section of the flats is three storeys high and each flat has the following sanitary fittings: bath, lavatory basin, separate w.c., and kitchen sink. Waste and branch ventilating pipes are conventional. The traps were manufactured and the waste, soil, branch ventilating and anti-syphon pipes preformed by Econa Modern Products, Ltd., of Birmingham. Econa's method of preforming permits the easy removal of any fitting or pipe in the system and, on being approached by the students, the firm supplied and fitted traps made of glass which were otherwise exact replicas of the deep-seal tubular traps Hence it was which they replaced. possible for the students to observe not only the final loss of seal in the traps, but also the precise fluctuations in water level which took place under various conditions.

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There was insufficient time available before the flats were due for occupation for more than 25 tests. For conclusive results each test should have been repeated 10 times; nevertheless the results are extremely interesting.

The first three tests were carried out mainly to ensure that the installation. which had not been in use for some time, was in good working order. The first two tests showed that the long sanitary branch on the 1st floor was obstructed and the third test was made when the obstruction was removed. Tests 4 to 10 were made after the branch ventilation pipes on the 1st floor had been removed and the vent connections capped. Test No. 7 was a repeat of test No. 6, because it was discovered that an over-enthusiastic student on the 2nd floor unnecessarily helped the six pieces of newspaper down the w.c. with a very large floor mop.

The Architects' Journal for April 17, 1952

For the remainder of the tests, observations were made of the traps on the ground floor as well as the 1st and 2nd floors and, here again, the branch vent pipes were made ineffective. Tests 24 and 25 (with the top of the soil pipe plugged) were expected to give large losses in seal, if the system proved to be air-tight; it did.

Apart from these last abnormal tests. with all ground and 1st floor vent pipes made ineffective, the only seal losses took place when buckets of water were discharged into the 1st and 2nd floor w.c's. at the peak of the flush, and in only one case (No. 18) did the amount of seal loss exceed that which is allowable in the opinion of BRS.\*

The sanitary branch is 31-in. dia.

copper, 5 ft. long, placed at a fall of 5 deg.; the "P" trap under the basin has a fall of 13 deg. through a distance of 2 ft. 6 in. to the soil and waste stack. Under the sink there is a 1½-in. "S" trap discharging into a 1½-in. waste pipe with a similar fall. From the bath, there is a 1½-in. "Econa" running trap discharging at 10 deg. into the soil stack. In all the tests, the overflow of the basin was plugged and the basin filled to overflow level. The sink contained 3 in. of water and, except where stated otherwise, the bath contained 5 in. of water.

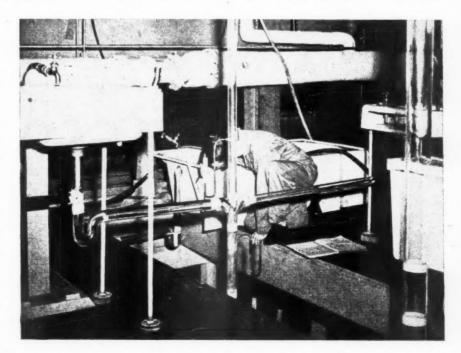
It cannot be concluded from these tests that the omission of branch ventilation piping is possible; as far as the w.c's. on the ground and first floors are concerned it is felt that such an omission is undesirable, if only because test No. 10 might be representative. But it certainly appears from these tests that it would be worth while, before spending a great deal of money fitting orthodox branch ventilation to bath, basin and sink wastes, to investigate further the real advantages, if any, to be gained by doing so.

\*One-Pipe Plumbing: Some Recent Experimental Hydraulics at BRS. A. F. E. Wise. Journal of the Institution of Sanitary Engineers, Jan. 1952.

#### AMERICAN EXPERIMENTS: NATIONAL PLUMBING CODE THE

In the United States the question of a standard system of plumbing is attracting widespread attention. It is estimated that there are more than 1,000 cities and towns with different plumbing systems. Many of them are obsolete or restrict development. The American National Production Authority has undertaken some preliminary research. With the Housing and Home Finance Agency, it has issued the National Plumbing Code. It is based on test plumbing systems, such as those illustrated on the right, where transparent pipes are used. The Code, which has already been adopted by four States and 250 principal cities, proposes emergency

federal specifications for plumbing fixtures, new standards to reduce weight of soil pipes, etc., and a manual of design for use by architects, engineers and contractors. In December, 1951, a Government Advisory Committee on plumbing, after con-



sidering the Code, has made several recommendations. The Committee states that plated finishes are not necessary where other protective coats are available, the number of different sizes and designs should be reduced, outlet fixtures and traps should

# County Architect beats Shortages



### THE HENGIST SCHEME

for providing additional school accommodation in the West Riding has involved a rush building programme; all materials used had to be readily available. Accotile, specified by Mr. Hubert Bennett, F.R.I.B.A., West Riding County Architect, for flooring the sixty buildings in the scheme, was chosen primarily because it was readily available, and because for special reasons (see below) the cost of installation was remarkably low—but it has proved more successful than old-fashioned alternatives. Picture shows the Hengist annex at Mansel Crescent Infants' School, Parson's Cross, Sheffield.

## VERSATILE NEW MATERIAL SOLVES FLOORING PROBLEM

One of the most urgent tasks confronting public authorities in the post-war years has been the provision of new school accommodation. In the West Riding of Yorkshire, population rise has so far outstripped the regular building programme that an emergency scheme has been put into operation for enlarging the present schools. Sixty annexes of standard design (see illustration) are being built in the grounds of existing schools, mostly comprising two classrooms, cloakroom and sanitary accommodation, in order to meet the emergency.

Owing to the urgency of the work, only readily available materials could be specified. At the same time, the budget would not permit luxuries.

#### Choosing a floor

One problem of great importance has been flooring. A floor had to be found that was at once durable, readily available, and not too

The material chosen by Mr. Hubert Bennett, F.R.I.B.A., the county architect, was "Accotile," the asphalt tile flooring made by the Armstrong Cork Company—firstly, because it is readily obtainable, and secondly, because Accotile, with its damp-resisting qualities, can be laid direct on to screeded concrete without the necessity of a damp-course—hence the installation is much lower in cost than for most floors.

Accotile provides the flooring for the classrooms and vestibules of every building in the Hengist Scheme.

#### Qualities of Accotile

Accotile is a composition of inert, asbestos fibres and ground rock fillers, fadeless mineral pigment and asphalt or resin-binders. It pro-

vides an extremely durable floor (floors laid in this country in 1938 and 1939 are still giving excellent service) that has a strong resistance to alkaline moisture. Accotile remains non-slip under all conditions, which makes it particularly suitable for schools and institutions.

There are almost unlimited possibilities of design for Accotile, and it can be laid to harmonize with existing decorations. Inconvenience is cut down to a minimum, since Accotile can be used as soon as it is laid.

Standard Accotile is cleaned by washing with

water, and can be polished when desired. It is resistant to stains and dilute acids. Where conditions make it advisable, a special Grease Resisting Accotile is recommended.

Accotile is available in two sizes of tile (12" x 12" and 9"x 9"); in two thicknesses (\( \bar{k}'' \) \( \bar{k}'' \); and in 19 different colours. In addition, Accotile Coved Skirting, supplied in 36" lengths, obviates the need for timber; and, as there are no corners for dust to collect in, it provides a hygienic, as well as decorative, finish to the room.

# ACCOTILE\*

"The low-cost floor with the luxwry look"

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#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

about Accotile, architects and builders are invited to write or telephone to
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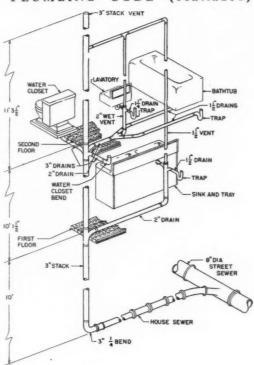
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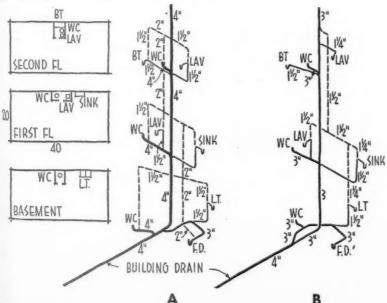
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## USA NATIONAL PLUMBING CODE (continued)

be standardized to effect a lower discharge rate and so make smaller pipes possible. In addition, it is suggested that vitreous china or porcelain could replace several metal parts. The diagram, right, shows the test plumbing system illustrated on page 495. As in this country, there is a need for more detailed research so that the apparently large savings of scarce materials could be estimated accurately. It is stressed that more data are required if unvented waste pipes are to be used economically. It is claimed



that, under certain conditions, one drain which acts as a vent for another is entirely practicable in one- and two-storey drainage systems. For a one-family house, the Code requirements can be compared with the conventional American system. This is diagrammatically shown below. The dashed lines indicate vent piping. A, represents the conventional system; B, the system required by the Code. As a corollary, it should be noted that many American cities require a house trap and fresh air inlet which add another 127 lb. In addition, some require that the drain from the building to the public sewer be installed with extra-heavy cast iron pipe, which adds 520 lb. For further information, see the Architectural Record (USA), December, 1951, pp. 157-9, from which these illustrations are taken.



## INFORMATION CENTRE

A digest of current information prepared by independent specialists; printed so that readers may cut out items for filing and paste them up in classified order.

## 2.120 planning: general SHOPPING CENTRES

Shopping Centres. Design and Operation. Geoffrey Baker and Bruno Funaro. (Reinhold Progressive Architecture Library, New York. 1951. \$12.00.)

A very full account of modern American practice in the design of neighbourhood, community and regional shopping centres; 288 pages, including index, well illustrated by plans and photographs.

The first part of this book describes the need for shopping centres, their siting, the provision of car parks near them, the layout of the building and its approaches, and various design details. This is followed by 200 pages devoted to describing over 60 shopping centres, large and small.

During the last twenty years a new species of shopping centre has emerged in the USA. This is the single-store group, usually under single-ownership, but let to different tenants. The centre may contain within its boundaries: departmental stores, small shops, and the equivalent of the traditional street market. Self-service is the characteristic feature of these stores—it is said that 80 per cent. of American shoppers prefer this system.

The great difference between modern

The great difference between modern American practice and our own is made clear. Self-service began during the depression of the mid-thirties and led to lower prices. Today, however, the basis for it all is "real estate" development and the rising number of dollars being spent on the retail trades. The second influence is the automobile, for the typical customer has a car. As a pedestrian, the customer occupies 3 sq. ft. of ground space; his car requires 300 sq. ft. The area allocated for car-parking exceeds the floor area of the stores by as much as 200 per cent., and this figure is rising. The analysis of car-parking problems is excellent.

A stimulating book, but do not expect to find in it any "superior brands" of architecture.

#### 3.27 planning: regional and national

#### PLANNING IN CANADA

Planning Projects in Canada. CPAC Newsletter (Community Planning Association of Canada, Jan., 1952.)

Some notes on important decisions on community building taken in Canada last year.

The St. Lawrence seaway and power scheme is to proceed. With this scheme the Canadians will have an opportunity for good detailed planning in the location and

Heat, Light-and Time

The water and gas supplies, the electricity and telephone wiring in modern buildings are, as a matter of course, planned on the drawing board, but the clocks are too often forgotten. Yet in all large buildings accurate and consistent time-indication is important and it pays to plan it with the other services. The time-indication for the South Bank exhibition was planned in this way using Gibson Master-and-Slave clocks. There were 133 Slave clocks and Time Recorders (some of them specially designed for the buildings in which they were

used), driven by electrical impulses from a single Master clock. Batteries

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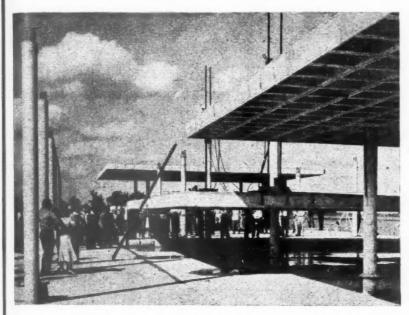
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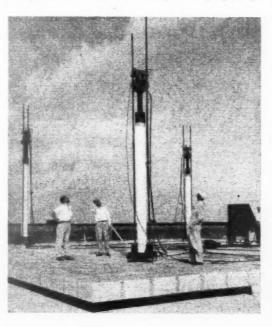
#### LIFTING SLABS OF HOLLOW BLOCKS



For a new factory in Florida, the Youtz-Slick slab lifting technique has been used for the first time with hollow concrete roof blocks. The Youtz-Slick technique was first described in this country in the JOURNAL for January 18, 1951. Later, a lecture by a visiting American architect, O'Neil Ford, was fully reported in the JOURNAL for July 12, 1951. In Florida the overall dimensions of the factory roof are 200 ft. by 100 ft. It has been lifted in sections, each of 50 ft. sq. and weighing 175,000 lb. The photograph above shows three sections of the roof: one fully raised to 14 ft. Each section is supported by four reinforced concrete columns. At the top of each column a 5-in. metal pipe collar provides a means for welding on the usual type connectors. In the photograph, below, three hydraulically operated jacks are shown in position. The columns are spaced at 30-ft. centres so that the roof slabs cantilever 10 ft. beyond the columns on all four sides. The slabs were formed by specially

designed hollow concrete blocks, 2 ft. square by 13 in. deep, with a weight of 130 lb. Each block has a 2-in. flange on each of its four sides. The blocks were laid on the concrete floor, with the hollow sides down and the flanges touching. The reinforced steel, amounting to 1.82 lb./sq. ft. and the in situ concrete were added. In addition, a 4 ft. square solid slab of concrete was formed round each column. Embedded in this slab were

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building of new villages, factories, waterside

darilities, dams and power stations.

On the other side of Canada, in British Columbia, the Aluminium Company of Columbia, the Aluminium Company of Canada is creating a new town of Kitimat. "Alcan" is breaking with the tradition of company towns and hopes to form a balanced town of about 50,000 people. The company is, however, assuming the first costs of seeing Kitimat properly laid out and developed. "Alcan" has engaged Clarence Stein to co-ordinate the work and Albert Mayer as site planning consultant. A development to be watched.

#### 4.69 planning: urban and rural

### STEPNEY RECONSTRUCTION

Industry and Planning in Stepney, D. L. Munby (Geoffrey Cumberlege, Oxford Munby (Geoffrey Cumbe University Press, 1951, 30s.).

This report to the Stepney Reconstruction Group of Toynbee Hall cannot fail to be of the greatest value to the LCC in planning the Stepney-Poplar reconstruction area. The area covers practically the whole of the Borough of Stepney-that crowded, drab, but vital cosmopolitan community which lies directly to the east of the City.

The report, largely finished in 1946, was published last autumn in book form. Its 450 pages of text appear, at a first glance, to be formidable, but this is a false impression for, of its kind, the book is first class and many of the pages make excellent reading. Here and there, however, some repetition is apparent. The text is well supported with tables, maps, and a comprehensive index.

Compared with some of the provincial cities, London has been poorly supported in its planning, by detailed social and economic surveys into the life of its constituent boroughs. How important these detailed surveys are is brought out by this report. One of the chief lessons to be learned from it are the pitfalls of generalizing about decentralization once a programme starts to be applied—its successful application calls for the most detailed knowledge about potential outgoing industries and population. Particularly good is that part of the report which deals with the borough's industries— the famous clothing trade, the river-side industries and the many others. The report demonstrates the danger of planning for the needs of the borough's remaining population without a detailed knowledge of its composition and the danger of applying national unmodified standards to unusual community.

#### 16.85 materials: miscellaneous ALUMINIUM

Aluminium in Building. (Northern Aluminium Co. Ltd. 1952.)

110 pp. Picture book plus diagrams and useful notes on all uses of aluminium in building.

This book is very well illustrated by photographs and diagrams. Although the author does not go into great technical detail, he does give some useful notes on the properties of aluminium and many of the diagrams of its application are useful for reference purposes. In an accompany-ing letter, the publishers make two points clear: firstly, that owing to the present shortage of aluminium it is not generally available for building work; secondly, that the cost of the book is such that it is available as a free issue only to heads of firms, government departments, teachers in architectural subjects and libraries.

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I'M MANY PUBLIC libraries and other municipal buildings, there is a tendency to retain old-fashioned lighting that gives a harmful mixture of glare and shadow, resulting in inefficiency. The modern outlook demands fluorescent lighting by Philips, which brings to every desk and book-shelf the ideal light for the purpose. No harsh glare, no deep shadows, but clear, restful vision. Staff and public alike are grateful.



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News :

28, 19

## SLAB LIFTING (continued)

11 in. dia. screw anchors for lifting. As the sides of the blocks taper inwards, the blocks wedged together as the concrete set. The lifting was performed by individual hydraulic jacks, right, controlled from a central panel on the slab. The rate of lift was 21 ft. per hour. By using hollow blocks the weight of steel was considerably reduced from the usual 4 lb./sq. ft. necessary for solid slabs. For further details see the Engineering News Record (USA), February 21, 1952, pp. 30 to 31.

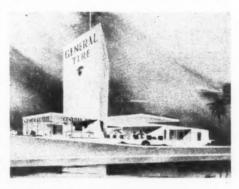


#### COFFERED CONCRETE CANOPIES

The photograph below, right, shows the new tyre service station at Miami Beach Florida, which has been constructed with 5,000 sq. ft. of canopy area without columns. The building is dominated by a triangular-prism tower from which the three canopies are cantilevered to spans of 30 ft. to 50 ft. The undersides of the canopies are coffered

to reduce the deadload. coffers were constructed by pouring concrete around 3,700 metal cans, below. The canopies required 115 cub. yd. of concrete; the entire structure 700 cub. yd. and 38 tons of reinforcing steel. For further details see the Engineering News Record (USA), February 28, 1952, p. 36.

PHILIPS





#### 22.52 sound: insulation and acoustics

#### ACOUSTIC TREATMENT

Three Selected Detail Sheets. (Progressive Architecture [USA]. Feb., 1952.)

Drawings and photographs of acoustically treated (a) open fronted telephone booths; (b) small listening rooms; and (c) small music practice rooms, all in Fine Arts Building, University of Kentucky.

#### 23.157 heating and ventilation DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

Recommended Domestic Solid Fuel Appliances. List No. 4. (Coal Utilisation Joint Council. Dec., 1951. 6d.)

Further revision to the well-known list of approved appliances from which house heating and hot-water appliances using solid fuel are now bound to be chosen.

While it is an excellent thing that only appliances on an approved list may be installed in new houses, the list in itself does no more than ensure that a range of appliances, reasonably efficient for their type are used. It does not give any figures to show what efficiency of coal utilization can be expected from the various appliances or even from the various classes of appliance. There are, of course, a number of reasons why it would be very difficult to supply such figures, particularly in a document of this kind. Hence, it remains for architects to en-deavour to find out by other means what degree of efficiency any particular appliance may have.

The list does not include any figures for B.Th.U. output and architects are "advised" B.Th.U. output and architects are to consult a member of the Councils' Panel Approved Appliance Distributors for advice on the appliances most suited to their needs." Valuable, though such advice may Valuable though such advice may be in some cases it would be useful if architects could be given some basic information if it exists

## ENQUIRY FORM

I am interested in the following advertisements appearing in this issue of "The Architects' Journal." (BLOCK LETTERS, and list in alphabetical order of manufacturers names please).

Please	asi	b	manufacturers	to	send	further
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PROFESSION or TRADE

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## Buildings Illustrated

Stands at the 1952 Hotel, Restaurant and Catering Exhibition at Olympia. (Pages 484-485.) Stand for Votrix Vermouth (Vine Products Ltd.) Designer: Ronald Dickens, M.B.E., M.S.I.A., Associate, Richard B. Hornby; General contractor: G. & W. Waller Ltd. Sub-contractors: floor tiles, Semtex Ltd.; plants, vines and grapes, The West End Flower House; furniture, Ernest Race Ltd.; sound reproduction, Sound Services Ltd.; puppets, Miss D. Warner; coloured advertisement reproductions, Carlton Artists Ltd.; glass advertisement panel, Speedway Signs Service. Stand for Newton Chambers & Co. Ltd. Designer: Christian Barman, R.D.I., F.R.I.B.A.; General contractor: Beck & Pollitzer Ltd. Chairs designed by Peter Hvidt and O. Molgaard Nielsen; supplied by Finmar Ltd. Wallpaper, Arthur Sanderson & Sons Ltd.; light fittings, Troughton & Young Ltd.; curtains, Heal & Sons Ltd.; photographic enlargements, Autotype Co. Ltd. Stand for Hussman British Refrigeration Ltd. Designer: Ian Baker, A.R.I.B.A.; for Grant Advertising Ltd. General contractor: Pictorial Display Ltd.

Car Assembly Building for Austin Motor Co. Ltd., at Longbridge, Birmingham. (Pages 489-492.) Architect: C. Howard Crane, A.I.A. Quantity surveyor: L. C. Wakeman & Partners. Drainage consultant: D. Longdon. General contractor: W. J. Whittall & Sons. Sub-contractors for the structure: asphalt, Highway Construction Ltd.; reinforced concrete, Concrete Ltd.; bricks, Proctor & Lavender Ltd.; structural steel, iron staircases, Redpath Brown & Co. Ltd.; fireproof construction, folding gates, Potter Rax Ltd.; special roof-

ings, Robertson Building Service; partitions, Roneo Ltd.; patent glazing, casements, metalwork, Williams & Williams Ltd.; patent flooring, Empire Stone Co. Ltd. Sub-contractors for the equipment: central heating, Brightside Foundry Eng. Co. Ltd.; electric wiring, Lee Beasley & Co. Ltd.; stairtreads, Ferodo Ltd.; fireproof doors, Sheldon Ltd. Sub-contractors for decoration and specialities: plaster, joinery, water supply, General Construction Co. Ltd.; metalwork, Birmingham Guild Ltd.; terrazzo, Zannelli (London) Ltd.; shop fitting work, Frederick Sage & Co. Ltd.; locker cloakroom fittings, Fisher & Ludlow Ltd.

## Announcements

The technical advisory service of the Lead Industries Development Council is a central source of information on the use of lead sheet and pipe. Usually inquiries are dealt with by correspondence or telephone, but from time to time problems do arise that are better dealt with by discussion or demonstration on site than by lengthy correspondence. For example such problems as methods of working and fixing lead sheet and pipe for unusual purposes in new work, and the use of leadburning instead of soldered joints for lead pipe or instead of bossing to sheet leadwork. When such practical guidance is desired arrangements can be made, on request, for a visit by a technical officer. Inquiries may be sent to the Lead Industries Development Council, Eagle House, Jermyn Street, London, S.W.1.

The Merchant Adventurers Ltd. announce that by the acquisition of a new factory and works in Portland Road, W.11, a much wider range of MA lighting fittings will shortly be made available with, it is hoped, improved deliveries.

At the recent meeting of the council of the English Joinery Manufacturers' Association, with the president, Mr. M. van Westerborg, in the Chair, Mr. W. E. Adams, the senior vice-president, was re-appointed as the representative of the association on the council of the British Wood Preserving Association. Among other matters discussed were the steps which the association has taken with regard to the shortage of metal so far as hinges and hardware for joinery are concerned and also the effect on costs of the increased price of petrol. It was reported that EJMA Standard Kitchen Units and EJMA Standard Wood Casement Windows, together with a display panel showing photographs and giving full information with the Association's Certification Trade Mark were being exhibited by the TDA in the House Section of the Glasgow Building Exhibition.

The following firms were elected members:—Bonds (Mackworth) Ltd., Mackworth, Derby; W. H. Gaze & Sons Ltd., 19-23, High Street, Kingston-on-Thames, and Page & Taylor Ltd., Electric Saw Mills, Preston Dock, Preston, Lancs.

The next meeting was arranged for the June 10, 1952.

The address of M & B Plastics Ltd. is now 45-47, Wigmore Street, London, W.I. (Tel.: Welbeck 0425.)

## Enquiry Forms

Very often manufacturers who advertise in the JOURNAL'S pages produce several products. Readers should therefore note that when completing enquiry forms they should indicate what particular product they are interested in.

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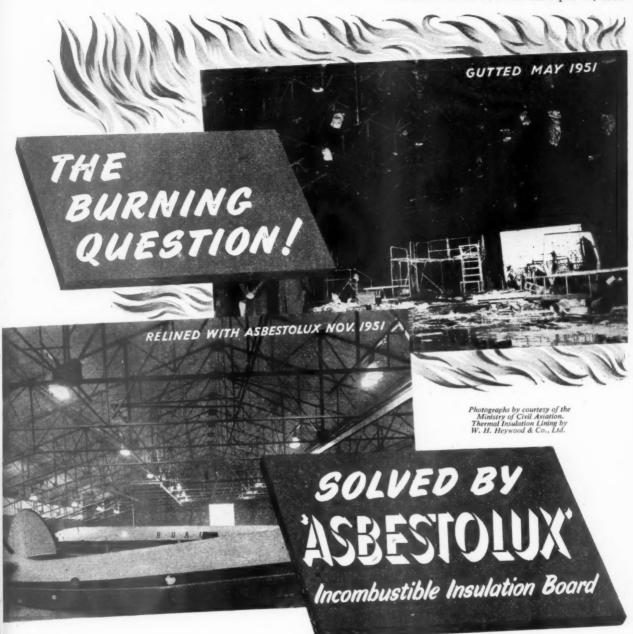
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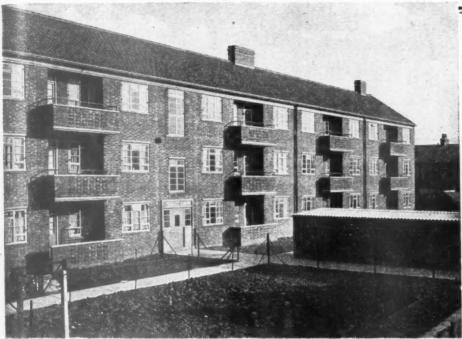
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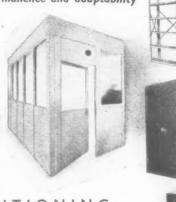
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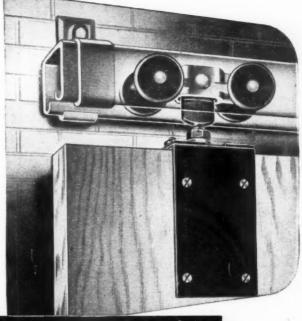
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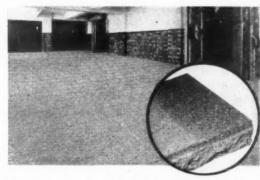
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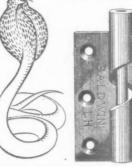
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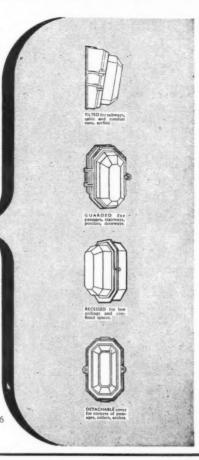
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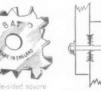
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If preferred, appointment can be a temporary one, Candidates for Senior post should have experience in the design and construction of large housing developments.

Although the salary grade and scale will be discussed and adjusted at the interview by selected candidates, written applications should indicate the preference compatible with the qualifications of the applicant.

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SUDAN GOVERNMENT.
The Ministry of Education requires SENIOR ASSISTANTS and ASSISTANTS, aged 25 to 40 or thereabouts for service in the Sudan Khartoum Technical Institute to teach Building Construction and allied trades to full-time day students up to the standard of National Diploma. (a) Candidates for Senior Assistant should hold a degree or its equivalent, e.g., R.I.B.A., Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, Institute of Civil Engineers, Institute of Structural Engineers, Corporate Association of Architects and Surveyors; industrial and teaching experience would be an added qualification. (b) For Assistant, candidates should hold the Higher National Certificate in Building, Surveying or Structural Engineering.

Appointments will be on probation for a shorterm contract for two years in the salary scale £E550 to £E1,675 for Senior Assistants and £E750 to £E1,600 for Assistants, both with post-service bonus. Starting rate would be determined according to age, qualifications and experience, and a cost of living allowance may also be payable. Outfit allowance of £E50 on appointment. There is at present no income tax in the Sudan. Free passage on appointment.

Further information and application form will be sent on receipt of a postcard only addressed to the Sudan Agent in London, Wellington Heuse, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W.1, quoting 1010(a) or (b), and name and address in block letters.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL.

Applications are invited for the post of SENIOR LECTURER AND STUDIO INSTRUCTOR in the School of Architecture, with special responsibilities in Architectural Design, at a salary scale of £1,150 × £50-£1,350 per annum.

Applications, accompanied if possible by drawings or photographs of work, two testimonials, and the names of three referees, should be received not later than Monday, 5th May, 1952, by the undersigned.

STANLEY DUMBELL.

STANLEY DUMBELL. Registrar.

March, 1952.

CITY OF COVENTRY.

ARCHITECTURAL AND PLANNING
DEPARTMENT.

Applications are invited for the following
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appointments in the Quantity Surveying Section of my Department:

(a) ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR.

(b) QUANTITY SURVEYING ASSISTANT.

(c) QUANTITY SURVEYING ASSISTANT.

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The person appointed to post (a) who should be of at least Inter. R.I.C.S. or equivalent standard, is to carry out measurement and accounts settlement on major cortracts including a large volume of housing. Experience of negotiated schemes for housing work is desirable.

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Housing accommodation may be made available in certain circumstances for appointment (a).

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Applications, on forms available from the undersigned (please state post for which applying), by Wednesday, 23rd April, 1952.

D. E. E. GIBSON.

City Architect and Planning Officer.

Bull Yard, Off Warwick Row, Coventry, 2nd April, 1952.

Coventry.
2nd April, 1952.

CITY OF LEICESTER.

Applications are invited for the appointment of MAINTENANCE ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT in the City Surveyor's Department. The salary will be in accordance with Grade A.P.T. IV-VI (£530-£710), according to qualifications and experience, and the appointment is subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act. 1937.

Applicants should have a good knowledge of Architectural practice and be experienced in the maintenance of buildings, preparation of specifications ulans, and supervision of work.

Applications, including age, qualifications and experience, together with copies of testimonials, should reach the undersigned not later than 30th April, 1952.

JOHN L. BECKETT, M.Inst.C.E..

City Surveyor.

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Applications are invited for the post of CHIEF AND PLANNING OFFICER to the Development Corporation.

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Application forms may be obtained from the General Manager, Torrance House, East Kilbride, to whom they should be returned not later than 23rd April, 1952.

Canvassing of the members of the Corporation will constitute an absolute disqualification. 6663

COUNTY OF ESSEX.
COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.
Applications are invited for the following appointments on the established staff of the County Architect's Department:—
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A.P.T.D. Salary at a rate of not exceeding £575 a year.

a year.

(c) ASSISTANT ARCHITECT, Grade III.
A.P.T.D. Salary at a rate of not exceeding £545

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Candidates should have had good general experience in planning designing and construction. The work includes buildings for education and health purposes, etc.
In fixing the commencing salary in each case regard will be had to the experience and qualifications of the successful candidates.
Canvassing, either directly or indirectly, is forbidden.

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Canvassing, either directly or indirectly, is forbidden.

Applications must be made on a form obtainable from the County Architect, Mr. H. Conolly, F.R.I.B.A., at the address stated below (please state post for which form is required), and when completed the form, accompanied by copies of not more than three recent testimonials, must be sent as early as possible to Chelmsford. Employment Exchange, Wells Street, Chelmsford, with reference number M.4/A quoted on the application form and on the covering envelope.

JOHN E. LIGHTBURN.

Clerk of the County Council.

Sth April, 1952.

HARROW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPART
MENT.

APPOINTMENT OF MAINTENANCE INSPECTOR, A.P.T., GRADE I.

Applications are invited for the appointment of Maintenance Inspector (A.P.T., Grade I; salary scale, £40-£485 per annum, plus London "weighting"), in the Department of the Engineer and Surveyor.

Applicants should be able to carry out inspections for repairs and decorations to Council properties; to prepare appropriate reports with estimates of cost; and to supervise the carrying out of such work. A sound knowledge of all branches of building construction is essential, and experience of specification writing and a recognised qualification will be advantageous.

The Council is unable to assist in obtaining housing accommodation for the successful candidate.

The appointment will be subject to the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, to the passing of a medical examination, and to the National Joint Council's Scheme of Conditions of Service.

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Applicants should write, quoting Ref. J.Q.S., to Room 403, Ministry of Labour and National Service. Technical and Scientific Register, Almack House, 26, King Street, London, S.W.I..

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The date for the return of enders to the undersigned will be notified when tender documents are issued at the end of April but will be three to four weeks later.

W. J. BALL, Clerk to the Special Area

1. Lonsdale Street, Carlisle.

W. J. BALL, Clerk to the Special Area Committee.

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Applicants should have experience in the preparation of Bills of Quantities, measuring and adjusting variations and able to undertake work with a minimum of supervision.

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Application, stating age, experience and qualifications to be addressed to Mr. G. S. Hay, Chief Architect, Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., Balleon Street, Manchester, 4. Apply Labour Exchange.

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A RCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT of many years' experience requires post as CHIEF DRAUGHTSMAN in London Architect's office. Box 431.

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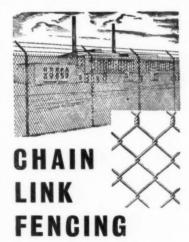
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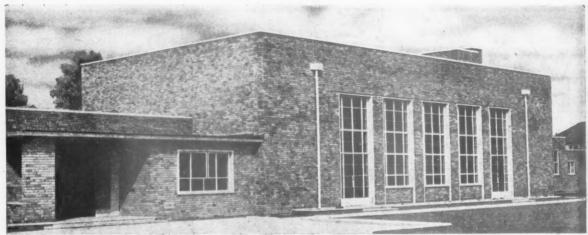


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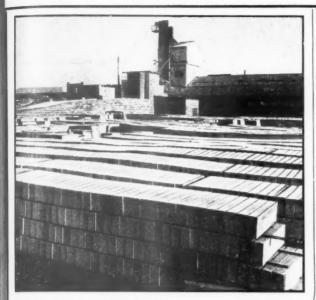
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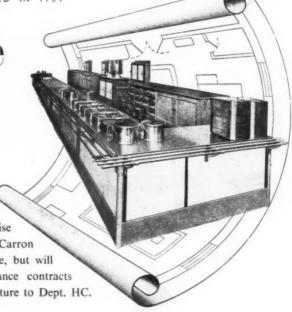




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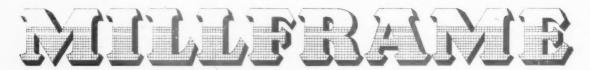
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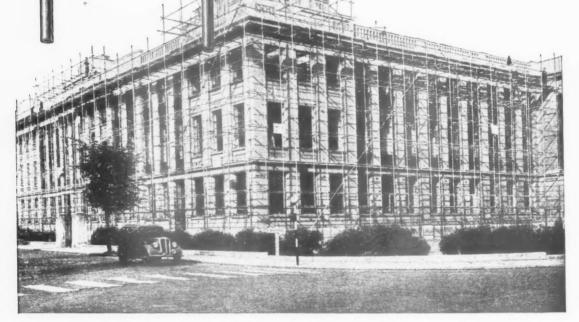
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